# STARS STRIPES.



Air Force to build new housing at Lakenheath

Airbus unveils

world's largest passenger plane

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2005

# 1st AD gets notice of likely return to Iraq

Some soldiers say orders warn of new deployment Page 3

### Coming home is twice as nice

t. David Becker of the 67th



# STARS STRIPES. COMING SOON



Three cheers for chocolate



Jennifer Garner is electrifying

### Don't miss a single issue.

For home delivery, call DSN 349-8437

STARS STRIPES.

Your Hometown Newspaper

#### TODAY IN STRIPES

TODAT IN OTHER
Abby, Annie's Mailbox24 American Roundup18-19
Classified25-27
Comics22-24
Crossword23
Faces21
Horoscope22
Letters14
Opinion15
Sports27-36
TV listings20
Weather17
Your Money16

### News Tracker ... What's new with old news

#### States

U.S. sanctions against China: The Bush administration has quietly applied new sanctions against eight Chinese companies for helping Iran with its missile programs, the White House spokesman said Tuesday.

Administration officials confirmed a report in The New York Times that said the State Department had served notice to the Chinese firms early this month. A North Korean company also was penalized.

The sanctions prohibit the companies from doing business in the United States, and ban them from obtaining licenses that allow them to export or obtain a patent for American technologies.

Staten Island ferry crash: Michael Gansas, the pilot at the helm of the Staten Island ferry that crashed into a pier in 2003, angrily blamed himself for the wreck that killed I1 and injured dozens, according to documents released Tuesday by federal investigators.

The information about the pilot was provided in the testimony of Patrick Ryan, the city's director of ferry operations, who now is being prosecuted for his alleged role in the crash. Ryan told probers that he rushed to the scene of the Oct. 15, 2003, crash, when be core form sole. Blate at Spiths.

where he met ferry pilot Richard Smith.
"Patty, I'm sorry, I blacked out. It's all my
fault. I killed all these people," Smith told
Ryan, according to the director's testimony.

Avalanche rescue effort: After four days of searching a 16-acre debris field in Park City, Utah, rescue crews ended their large-scale probe for victims of last week's powerful avalanche.

Summit County Sheriff Dave Edmunds said chances were good that the avalanche near Park City, about 20 miles east of Salt Lake City, trapped only one person.

Monday was the last day searchers would gather in large numbers.

A limited search will continue, but bigger groups won't scale the mountain again unless authorities receive a credible tip that someone is missing.

#### World

Uzbek terror trial: Six people went on trial in the Uzbek capital of Tashkent on Tuesday on suspicion of involvement in deadly attacks last year that the government blamed on Islamic radicals.

The two women and four men are being tried in the Tashkent City Court on charges of terrorism and extremism and could be sentenced to death if convicted, court officials said.

Uzbek authorities have jailed more than populoped in connection with the two waves of explosions and attacks last spring and summer, which killed more than 50 people. The U.S. and Israeli embassies were among the targets.

Iran nuclear suspicions: The U.N. nuclear watchdog agency is pushing for a fresh look at an Iranian military complex linked by the United States to possible atomic arms research just days after being granted limited access, diplomats said Tuesday.

The International Atomic Energy Agency is interested in testing another part of the



Iran Illegal summons: Iranian Nobel peace laureate Shirin Ebadi, speaks with media during a press conference Monday in Tehran, Iran. In a rare admission of fault, Iran's judiciary conceded Tuesday that a Revolutionary Court summons for Ebadi was illegal and said the matter would be dropped. But Judiciary spokesman Jamal Karimirad denied Ebadi's statement that Iran holds detainees in solitary confinement. Ebadi, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2003, defied the Revolutionary Court on Sunday when she refused to obey a summons that asked her to appear without giving a reason.

sprawling Parchin complex just outside Tehran in its search for radiation that could point to such research, the diplomats said.

The request by the Vienna, Austria-based IAEA comes just days after its inspectors were given partial access to the site and were allowed to take environmental samples for analysis in the agency's European laboratories.

Ukraine election: Ukraine's Supreme Court paved the way Tuesday for the inauguration of Western-lean-

ing reformer Viktor Yushchenko in a ruling issued while it still considers an appeal by the Kremlin-favored losing candidate.

Representatives of former Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych, who filed the appeal, denounced the decision as politically biased and warned it would undermine Ukraine's stabili-

ty and aggravate tensions.

The court, responding to a motion by Yushchenko's camp, ruled that the results of the presidential election can be published in two government newspapers — a precondition for the inauguration.

Yushchenko

Kuwait extremists: At least 20 Kuwaiti and Saudi men have been arrested and are being interrogated about deadly clashes between police and Islamic fundamentalists earlier this month, an Interior Ministry official said.

Kuwait has been pursuing extremists since two deadly shootouts with fundamentalists this month. Kuwait, a major ally of Washington since the 1991 Persian Gulf War that freed it from Iraqi occupation, has struggled with extremists opposed to U.S. forces in the country as well as the invasion

of Iraq that toppled Saddam Hussein almost two years ago. Twenty to 25 Kuwaiti and Saudi men are

whenly to 25 Nuwali and saudi men are in custody — up from 15 detaines reported on Monday by the Interior Minister — and are being questioned about the clashes, according to an interior ministry official who spoke on customary condition of anonymity.

Pakistan bombing suspects: Police on Tuesday arrested three brothers for allegedly harboring suspected suicide bombers who later made an attempt on the life of Pakistani Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz.

The suspects, alleged members of the Islamic militant group Jaish-e-Mohammed, were identified as Abdul Moim, Abdul Basit and Nisar.

Chaudhry Iftikhar, the chief of police in Rawalpindi, a city near the capital, said the three were nabbed in their home village in Attock, a district to the west, where the attack was launched July 30 as Aziz campaigned for a by-election, weeks before took office. Aziz escaped unhurt but nine other bystanders were killed.

Zimbabwe abuse allegations: A British newspaper reported Tuesday that it had received fresh evidence of human rights abuses in Zimbabwe by pro-government supporters ahead of parliamentary elections.

The Guardian daily said photographs taken by an activist show evidence of intimidation and violence against opposition figures.

It published one of the pictures, showing a woman with burns who was reportedly doused in paraffin and set alight.

The Zimbabwean High Commission in London dismissed the claims in The Guardian story. "It's a highly opinionated article which doesn't contain any facts at all," said Godfrey Magwenzi, the deputy high commissioner.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



#### Winter Cash Can Save You Thousands in '05!

Consolidate your debt with a low rate personal loan from Service Credit Union. 25 basis point

5 basis point discount available rith direct deposit and automatiloan payment

Contact us for details!

APPLY TODAYI



Rete, accurate as of 01/04/05 and subject to change without nation. Approval raises and series determined by the overall credit worthiness of each applicate. Musbe a member of SCU or eligible in membership to apply Offer availal on currents SCU lease which qualities additional funds of \$2,500 or more. Not to the

ortest Center combined with other special discounted officers.

# 1st AD warned of likely return to Iraq

BY TERRY BOYD

BAUMHOLDER, Germany - It's back to Iraq for America's last armored divi-

The Wiesbaden-based 1st Armored Division received its "deployment warning orders" last week, according to soldiers at Baumholder, home to the division's 2nd

Brigade and its Division Artillery Several sources told Stars and Stripes that a call-up could be imminent. The division could deploy sometime between Nov. 1, 2005, and mid-January, 2006. In addition, a stop-loss order will go into effect Aug. 1

for the division, according to sources. Warning orders are informal notifications alerting personnel they could be deploved

'Units were notified; soldiers were notified in order to let families know" that the 1st AD might deploy to Iraq, said a 1st AD

official who asked not to be identified. Division officials expect formal deploy ment orders to come this week from the Department of Defense, said U.S. Army officials in Germany. It is possible, though unlikely, units could receive warning orders,

but never deploy. The orders could affect as many as 10.000 soldiers at 11 1st AD bases across

Most expected the warning order.
"It's not a big surprise," said 1st Sgt.
Craig Copridge, with Company A, 2nd Bat-

### Official orders expected this week; 2nd deployment possible by late '05

er. The deployment to Iraq, if it happens, will be the third for Copridge, who went in Operation Desert Storm in 1991 as a sergeant and to Operation Iraqi Freedom in June 2003

"I'm looking forward to it." Copridge said. "I just became the first sergeant, and taking the company into combat is always

interesting. Not everyone shares his enthusiasm

'Four-two-seven took [the news] hard," said the wife of a 4th Battalion, 27th Artillery Regiment noncommissioned officer, who asked not to be identified. "It was very emotional at the [Family Readiness Group] meeting," she said, declining to comment further

On April 29, 2003, Company C, 4-27, lost eight men in a car bomb attack, the single largest loss the division suffered during its first OIF deployment from April 2003 through July 2004.

Most of the people interviewed by Stars and Stripes rated the Army as good in keeping soldiers and officers informed about

major changes before they happen. "It helped people, helped the families to hear [the warning order] firsthand instead Gowel, whose husband, 1st Lt. Dave Gowel, is executive officer for Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 2nd Bri-"The Army is good about telling you what you need to know."

She added that it was clear the 1st AD was likely to be sent back to Iraq just because there isn't enough of the Army to go around.

All of the Army's 10 active-duty divisions have deployed at least once to either Iraq or Afghanistan since 2001, as has nearly every National Guard and Reserve unit. ome units have deployed twice

Several soldiers told Stars and Stripes they thought it would be easier the second time. The 1st AD would return to Iraq with substantial experience

"Obviously, we don't know where we're going," Copridge said. "But based on what we learned that 15 months, we'll have a pretty good idea of what to expect.

The division's area of responsibility covered a huge swath of Baghdad during most of the first deployment, with soldiers and officers dividing their time between three main missions - raids, helping organize local governments and rebuilding efforts.

After the division was extended April 16, some units moved to southern Iraq, where they helped route Shiite militias after Iraqi security forces proved ineffectual.

The 1st AD is one of two divisions forward based in Germany. The other, the 1st Infantry Division based at Würzburg, currently has most of its units in Iraq, with the bulk of troops slated to return to Germany after general elections in Iraq, scheduled for Jan. 30.

Coping with long deployments is one of the biggest challenges for military fami-

Gowel said she stayed in Baumholder for the first deployment, but she plans to return to her family in Boston for what she expects to be another year apart

"There's something to be said for being around people who're going through what you're going through," Gowel said of remaining in Baumholder. "It takes away the pity factor. You can't go around saying, 'Oh, woe is me!' The people around you are all in the same boat

Going home won't be "better or worse, just different." she said. "I just don't want to do the same thing, and I felt like I missed a lot of stuff — weddings, family

and career opportunities - the first time The old saying among Army families is that it's easier to leave than to be left behind, Gowel said. If both leave, maybe it'll be a little easier with neither left behind, she added.

E-mail Terry Boyd at: boydt@mail.estripes.osd.mil

### Naples sailors get opportunity to show off new test uniforms

By SANDRA JONTZ

Stars and Stripes NAPLES, Italy - Milan. Paris.

New York. Naval Support Activity

OK, so the conference room of the Capo Tower doesn't have a famous catwalk, and the clothing isn't quite haute couture. But it was a bit of fashion nonetheless for Petty Officer 2nd Class Shonta Prince, who volunteered test-wear samples of what could become the new Navy service uniform.

"Anything that has to do with fashion, I'm there," said the 24-year-old information systems technician stationed at Naval Support Activity Naples as she strut-ted in her polyester-wool blend gray blouse and black skirt at the Capodichino Tower conference mom on Tuesday

NSA Naples, along with 11 other

test sites for the new uniform prototypes. About 600 sailors from around the world will be testing service and utility uniforms for durability, comfort, ease and overall

appearance Naples sailors are testing the service uniforms.

"I like them already. Look, pants that actually fit," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Allyson Gaylor, a petite 22-year-old, size 4 or 6 air traffic controller who still shops for clothing in the kiddie/teen section.

Each of the 12 Navy test sites

has ponied up about 50 sailors who make up what's been dubbed, "Task Force Uniform" to decide the new uniforms for E-6s and

For the next six months, the sail-ors will take notes on a number of options, such as whether they prefer the 75 percent polyester/25 percent wool, hand washable unicent dry-clean-only combination; whether they would rather have rating badges on their sleeves or on their collars; and if they'd rath-er wear the gray blouse/black botcombination over khaki/black look

Participants will give their opinions in two Web-based surveys one midway through the six-month trial period and one at the end, said Ken Jackson, a textile technologist for Navy Clothing and Textile Research Facility in Natick, Mass

After a small fashion show Thursday of the new uniform designs, sailors at Naval Station Rota Spain, will start test-wearing the utility versions next week, base spokeswoman Lt. Allie Freeman. About 50 Rota sailors will test four proposed designs, includ-ing two sets with digitally created camouflage and two sets with standard markings

"It fits pretty good," Petty Offic-er 2nd Class Jermaine Kelley, 25, said moments after stepping into his gray-black service uniform. The postal clerk at Naples said he digs the color. "It takes some getting used to, but I think it fits the Navy better. Our ships are gray."

Comfort is key for Petty Officer 2nd Class Caleb Hunter, 24, who also gave an initial approval.

"I haven't had it on long, but it seems comfortable, more comfortable than [our current uniforms] so far," said the aviation machinists mate. "The [gray] color is all right, but we care more for com-fortability, not color."

Staff writer Ben Murray con this report from Rota, Spain



PHOTOS BY SANDRA JONTZ/Stars & Stripe

Above: Ken Jackson, left, a textile technologist with the Navy clothing and Textile Research Facility in Massachusetts, checks the waistline on Petty Officer 2nd Class Jermaine Kelley, 25 and a postal clerk at Naval Support Activity Naples, Italy. Below: Petty Officer 1st Class Marilyn Gellegani, a Naples culinary specialist, got her black polyester/wool blend skirt hemmed. Over the next six-months, about 600 sailors from around the world will be testing out new service and utility uniforms.



#### Bamberg community bazaar set for February

BAMBERG, Germany — The annual Bazaar With Heart takes place Feb. 11-13 at the Basics Building on Warner Barracks in Bam-

berg. bazaar, run by the Bamberg Spouses and Civilians Club, will be from 9.45 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Feb. 11; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Feb. 12; and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Feb. 13. A total of 39 vendors will be offer-Proceeds from the bazaar go back into the community for such

things as scholarships and donations to schools and youth sports.

Only military identification card holders with status of forces agreement privileges may purchase items at the bazaar.

Because of space constraints, no baby strollers are allowed inside

For more information, call Stephanie Bacon at 0951-302-8039 or e-mail her at: stephanie.bacon@us.army.mil.

From staff reports

# Würzburg hospital team home from Iraq

BY STEVE LIEWER Stare and Strings

WÜRZBURG, Germanv - Little Megan and Melissa Becker dozed quietly in their mother Annette's arms, ignoring the hubbub around them as only 2-month-old babies can do.

After a brief ceremony, the girls and their mother rushed through a crowd of reuniting families from the 67th Combat Support Hospital.

Annette Becker searched the sea of faces until she saw the one she wanted: Sgt. Becker, home finally back-to-back deployments of four months in the Republic of Georgia followed by nine months in Iraq.

Becker scooped up his two little girls, holding one in each arm.

He kissed first one, then the other, on the tops of their heads.
"It's been hectic, stressful — definitely

stressful," Becker said of his long deployment. "I'm just glad it's over."

Becker was one of about 150 67th CSH soldiers who arrived home to Würzburg on Tuesday, most of them after a dangerous yearlong tour in Mosul, Iraq. About 200 more of the unit's soldiers are due back by week's end.

The reunion took far longer than expected. Families had been expecting the reunion every day since Saturday.

"It was the longest weekend of the whole year," said Christine Framstad, who brought her three children — ages 8, 5 and 16 months — to greet their dad, Mai, Mark Framstad, who is an anesthesiologist. "We made it! It's nice to have it over.'

The 67th CSH's Mosul contingent endured a difficult deployment. Three times the hospital was moved after rocket attacks scored direct hits on its building at Camp Marez. And the medics handled a staggering 91 casualties at once a few days before Christmas when a suicide homber blew himself up in the middle of the base's

The troops had been in transit from



Capt. Michelle Stewmon, a combat nurse holds her 6-year-old son Logan at the 67th Combat Support Hospital's homecoming Tuesday, Stewmon's husband, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Brian Stewmon of the 6th Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, served with the first rotation of troops in Iraq. while she deployed with the second group This is their first extended period of time together in almost two years.

Mosul since late Sunday Families had gathered about 5 a.m. in the temporary "reunion" building near the helipad at Würzburg's Leighton Barracks. holding signs, flowers and balloons while children frolicked in a makeshift play area

in one corner of the tent. But due to a series of delays, the troops

and their families weren't reunited until shortly after 11 a.m. Mary Swink brought her 3-year-old col-

lie mix, Winston, to greet his "doggy daddy," Sgt. 1st Class Andy Swink. She daddy," Sgt. 1st Class Andy Swink. She tied "I Love You" balloons to a harness on Winston's back She said nothing in her 31/2 years of mar-

riage prepared her for such a long separation. She coped by traveling to see family, and with visits from her grown children. "It's enough to be the single parent of a

dog," she said. "I can't even imagine how



PHOTOS BY STEVE LIEWER/Stars and Stripe:

Soldiers from the 67th Combat Support Hospital stand in formation as they wait for their first glimpse of loved ones. About 150 soldiers from the unit returned home to Würzburg, Germany, Tuesday after a yearlong deployment to Iraq.

moms do this with little ones."

Capt. Michelle Stewmon and her husband, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Brian Stewmon, know something about single parenting. Brian Stewmon spent 11 months in Iraq in 2003 as an AH-60 Apache Longbow pilot, then played parental tag team with their three children as his wife, a combat nurse, deployed for 11 months with the

They've been apart 22 of the past 23 months, but Tuesday's reunion proved especially sweet. It fell on the 13th birthday of their daughter, Erika, and one day after

Michelle's birthday.

"It's like a dream to me. It's finally hap-pened, too good to be true," Michelle Stewmon said

After troops and families exchanged hugs and kisses in the reunion tent for about 20 minutes, Col. Mary Clark, the Mosul hospital commander, grabbed a microphone and pronounced an end to the 67th CSH's job in Operation Iraqi Free-

"Job accomplished, OIF over," she said. "Mission complete."

E-mail Steve Liewer at: liewerS@mail.estripes.osd.mil

### 'Stan' nations meet in Germany to discuss drugs, terrorism

By CHARLIE COON Stare and Strings

GARMISCH, Germany - The five "Stans" - Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan - aren't new as neighbors but they are new at working together.

The young democracies, established after the former Soviet Union collapsed in 1991, are strategically located: to their south are Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran; to their east, China, and to their north, Russia. Including Afghanistan and Pakistan, the Stans area is about three-fourths the size of the continental United States with a population of 230

Last week, leaders from the five countries met at the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies to discuss fighting terrorism and stopping drug trafficking. Also on the agenda were causes of instability in the region and the roles of security "Each are long-term problems

that won't lend themselves to easy and quick solutions," said Army Lt. Gen. David Barno, com-



Army Lt. Gen. David Barno, commander of Combined Forces Command in Afghanistan, gives closing remarks Thursday at the Central and South Asian States Regional Security Conference in Garmisch, Germany,

mander of Combined Forces Command-Afghanistan, which organized the conference along with the Marshall Center.

'[They] need to look at the whole picture, not the one-coun-try-at-a-time picture," Barno Barno

The Marshall Center was founded in 1993 by the U.S. and German Defense departments and hosts conferences and classes designed to help former Soviet-bloc nations establish their indepen-

More than 90 delegates — most-

ly defense and foreign affairs ministers, diplomats and their deputies - came to the conference. Remarks were translated into English, Russian and Dari and kept off the record so delegates could speak freely

Representatives from Afghanistan and Pakistan also attended.

It was hoped the meetings would help the nations move past historical divisions and think as a region, according to Roger D. Kangas, who holds a doctorate and is professor of Central Asian Studies at the center.

"If there was a lesson of the 1990s, it was that ignoring Afghanistan and its internal problems was a mistake," said Kangas, referring to the rise of the ha Taliban regime and the al-Qaida group that took refuge in the coun-"Right now, we have a second chance to get it right.

"We need to move from discussion to real action. If we're going to do a counter-terrorism center counter-narcotics

where would it be located how would it be financed, what activi ties would it perform, who would it engage?

est producer of poppy, the plant from which heroin is made. But more than half of Afghanistan's heroin is transferred through the Stans on its way to dealers and users in the West, according to Lt. Col. Thomas Mergel of the German army and the Marshall Cen-

Afghanistan is the world's larg-

"And transfer countries become consumer countries " Mergel said.

One suggestion that came out of the conference, he said, was for nations to assign liaison officers to work with each other to address drug trafficking.

The group had met twice be-fore, in March 2003 in Kyr-gyzstan and February 2004 in Uzbekistan. This, however, was the first time that Afghanistan and Pakistan were invited.

"The time was simply not right to invite them [before]," Mergel said. "But they are facing the same problems, so they should be part of the solution.

"You want to make progress, so it's not time to exclude a single country.

F-mail Charlie Coon at: onc@mail.estrines.osd.mil

### Air Force planning to extend tours for airmen in Guam

By LISA BURGESS Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. - Beginning next January, the Air Force's accompanied tours in

Guam will change from 24 to 36 months, and unaccompanied tours will go from 15 to 24 months

The extensions make the assignment a long tour versus a short tour for Air Force personnel, according to a servicewide message about the change sent out this week by the Air Force's Office of Personnel at Randolph Air Force

Base, Texas. Airmen who report to Guam before Dec. 31 will continue to receive short-tour credit, while those reporting on or after Jan. 1 will serve the long tour and subsequently receive long-tour credit, the message says.

The number of personnel the tour changes will affect was not available by press time.

Air Force leaders repeatedly have mentioned Guam as a possi ble permanent base should Pacific Air Forces expand in the region, touting its strategic placement 1,500 miles from the Korean peninsula and a similar distance from the Taiwan Straits.

But the Air Force has vet to establish a permanent wing on the

Andersen Air Force Base on Guam was used as a temporary base for B-1 and B-52 bombers when tensions with North Korea began to rise in 2003, and airmen continue to be stationed on the island to maintain the sprawling fa-

The Navy, meanwhile, changed from short-term to long-term s tus for its shore-based Guam assignments on Oct. 12, according to Sharon Anderson, a spokes woman in the Navy's personnel of

The sea service has three submarines stationed on Guam. which began arriving in 2002; the USS San Francisco, the USS City of Corpus Christi and the USS Houston.

E-mail Lisa Burgess at: burgessl@stripes.osd.mil



This house and others like it at Liberty Village on RAF Lakenheath, England, soon will be torn down and replaced as part of a \$200 million project to provide more than 600 new housing units for the base, me of the 48th Fighter Wing. Plans also include building 590 houses off base.

# Air Force to build more housing at Lakenheath

### Plans include building about 1,200 units on and off base

BY RON JENSEN Stars and Stripes

RAF LAKENHEATH, England -- The U.S. Air Force plans to build more than 600 houses at RAF Lakenheath, while asking British developers to provide nearly that many more off base.

The projects are a sign that airmen will be sta-tioned at RAF Lakenheath and RAF Mildenhall for a long time, according to Lt. Cmdr. Rick Haupt, a spokesman for the U.S. European Command in Stut-"General Jones has said that we would not advo-

cate military construction funding that did not have good, strategic, enduring value," Haupt said, refer-ring to the EUCOM commander, Marine Gen.

The twin efforts will upgrade on-base housing nat was built during the early years of the Vietnam War and eliminate a shortage of proper off-base housing within a 30-minute drive of RAF Lakenheath and RAF Mildenhall, said Bart Bloemhard, the housing director.

About 10,000 active-duty Air Force members are stationed at the two bases

The on-base effort, which will begin next month, includes the demolition of 606 housing units and the construction of that many in an area known as Liber-

"We're going to tear down as many as we re-build," said Bloemhard, who said the effort has a price tag of \$200 million, which will come from the Pentagon's military construction budget. He said re-

pairing the houses would cost nearly as much as building new ones. "They're 40-year-old houses," he said. Already, 89 units are vacant and awaiting demoli-

tion. Most of them were emptied as military members transferred to new assignments, he said, but some of the tenants were moved to other housing units in the community.

British law requires a mandatory archaeological survey of any new construction site. Archaeologists should arrive in February and will need about six weeks to do their work, Bloemhard said.

"If they find something, it could take longer," he In the past, archaeologists have unearthed several

exciting finds at the base, including an Anglo-Saxon warrior buried on his horse. warrior ourieu of his horse.

The construction project is too large to guess at its completion date, but it could take 10 years or more.

"I wouldn't even want to put a [date] on that," said Kieron Mullen, facilities chief at the base.

The new homes will have multiple bedrooms and. unlike current housing, include garages, Bloemhard

"It'll look more like an English village," he said. Meanwhile, a date passed earlier this month for developers to submit plans to help the Air Force eliminate an off-base housing shortage that was identified by the Housing Requirements Market Analysis. The Air Force wants 590 three- and four-bedroom

homes built close to the two bases. It will lease them, not own them

"A number of developers have sent in packages," Bloemhard said. The deadline was Jan. 7.

Bloemhard said construction could begin this summer and be completed within a couple of years

The effort may run into opposition from the local residents, as well, once the details become available. For example, Grenville Dale, chairman of the Beck Row Community Association, said people who live near RAF Mildenhall are concerned that a large American housing area would disturb their small-town atmosphere.

"Generally, everybody is opposed to it locally be-cause they feel still that there is no need," he said. Some locals believe the housing should be built on the bases, not in and around their villages, he said Also, he said, local landlords fear losing tenants for their properties

Dale said the local community and the American military community have become separated because of security measures since Sept. 11, 2001, the date of the terrorist attacks on America.

The fear, he said, is that new housing areas will be set apart from the local communities by further security measures. He noted that one road - Lord's Walk, which borders RAF Lakenheath — has been closed to local traffic since Sept. 11. He wondered if new housing areas could cause the closure of other public roads

Plus, he said, what will happen if the Air Force leaves England?

"If you did suddenly pull the plug," Dale said, "who is going to occupy these houses?" Bloemhard said he understands the concerns, but

said the Air Force will be sensitive to them "We're not telling a developer to build ...a little America," he said.

And the developers have been given assurance that the Air Force will lease the houses for at least 10 years, he said.

E-mail Ron Jensen at: jensenr@mail.estripes.osd.mi

### Former Army doctor says he intends to seek parole after 25 years

BY MARTHA WAGGONER The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. - His highly publicized murder case was re-counted in a best-selling book, "Fatal Vision," and a television miniseries. Now, for the first time since he became eligible for parole in 1991, former Army doctor

Jeffrey Mac-Donald intends to seek his freedom, a lawyer says. MacDonald,

convicted years ago of the stabbing deaths of his pregnant wife and two daughters, had declined to seek parole because he said he would have to admit guilt for the slay-

ings at the family's Fort Bragg apartment Feb. 17, 1970. He remarried a few years ago and has more reasons to want a life outside of prison, said his at-torney, Tim Junkin of Potomac,

"He doesn't have any kind of change of heart. He's going to try to vindicate himself," Junkin said in a telephone interview Monday. "He knows in his heart he's innocent and will always insist on

Junkin said he didn't know when the request was filed with the U.S. Parole Commission and said he wouldn't disclose when or where the hearing would be held. Newsweek, which first report-ed the parole request in its issue this week, said the hearing would be in February. The magazine quoted Christina Masewicz, a retired nurse who has written a book about the case and obtained a federal document confirming

the hearing MacDonald, 61, is in the feder-

al prison in Cumberland, Md., where he is serving three life terms for the slayings of his wife, Colette, 26, 44 I don't want and daughters Jeffreu

Kimberley, and Kristen, 2. MacDonald ever He married a to walk the longtime friend. Kathryn K richh, in 2002. Ku-

streets again. Colette Mac-Donald's broth-**Bob Stevenson** er. Bob Steven-

said Monday he would attend the parole hearing to testify against Mac-"I don't want Jeffrey Mac-

Donald ever to walk the streets again." said Stevenson, 65, who lives outside New York City. "I hope to do everything I can for the remainder of my life to see that he does not get out.' MacDonald was assigned to

Special Forces at the time his family was slain. He claimed the killers stabbed and clubbed his famito death while one chanted,

"Acid is groovy. Kill the pigs."
The Army said it didn't have enough evidence to try Mac-Donald, and he went free for years. A federal court jury in Ra-leigh convicted MacDonald of the killings in 1979 after the Justice Department reopened the case.



# Iraq to seal its borders during elections

Suicide bombing at Shiite party's office kills 2; abducted archbishop freed after a day

BY BASSEM MROUE The Associated Press

BAGHDAD - Iraq will seal its borders, extend a curfew and restrict movement to protect voters during the Jan. 30 elections, officials announced Tuesday after the latest major insurgent attack — a suicide bombing that killed two people outside the offices of a lead-

ing Shiite political party.
President Bush spoke Tuesday morning with Iraqi interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, and Jordan's King Abdullah, the latest in a series of conversation between world leaders on Iraq's efforts to ensure maximum participation in the election.

Amid the insurgent campaign to ruin the vote, a Catholic archbishop kidnapped by gunmen in the northern city of Mosul was released Tuesday, a day after his abduction. The Vatican had called his abduction a "terrorist act."

Elsewhere, the U.S. command re ported a Task Force Baghdad soldier was killed Tuesday in a roadside bombing. It gave no further details

Also, a third American died in fighting in Iraq's troubled Anbar province, west of Baghdad, the military said Tuesday. Two others assigned to the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force also were killed in action there Monday.

The military gave no other details and it was unclear whether the three troops were killed in a suicide car bombing in the western city of Ramadi that U.S. officials said resulted in American casual-

A video surfaced Tuesday showing eight Chinese construction workers held hostage by gunmen claiming the men are employed by company working with U.S. troops, in the latest abduction of foreigners in Iraq. China's official Xinhua News Agency said diplomats were "making all efforts to rescue" the hostages

The men from China's southern Fujian province went missing last week while traveling to Jordan. Xinhua said

Tuesday's suicide car bombing in Baghdad gouged a crater in the pavement outside the offices of the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, a main contender in the election.

The Shiite party, known as SCIRI, has close ties to Iran and is strongly opposed by Sunni Muslim

The assailant told guards at a checkpoint leading to the party's office that he was part of SCIRI's se curity staff, and he detonated his



Above: A U.S. soldier treats an injury to an Iraqi at the scene of a suicide car bombing Tuesday outside the offices of Iraq's largest Shiite political party, which killed two, police and the U.S. military said. Below: Basile Georges Casmoussa, 66, the archbishop of the Syrian Catholic Church, center, is greeted Tuesday as he arrives back to the church in Mosul, 225 miles north of Baghdad. The archbishop, kids Monday, was freed without any ransom being paid, a church official said.

bomb-laden car at the guard post when he was not allowed to enter.
Iraqi police officials reported
the bomber and two others were dead and nine people were in-

jured, including three police. "SCIRI will not be frightened by such an act," party spokesman Ridha Jawad said, "SCIRI will continue the march toward building establishing justice and hold-

ing the elections Sunni Muslim militants, who make up the bulk of Iraq's insurgency, are increasingly honing in on Shiites in their effort to ruin the election that is widely expected to propel their religious rivals to a position of dominance. Many Sunnis

argue that security is precarious and the election should not take place under foreign occupation. The Independent Electoral Commission announced that the country's international borders would be closed from Jan. 29 until Jan. 31, except for Muslim pilgrims returning from the haji in Saudi Ara-

Iraqis also will be barred from traveling between provinces and a nighttime curfew will be imposed during the same period, according to a statement from the commis sion's Farid Avar.

Such measures had been expected because of the grave security threat, U.S. and Iraqi authorities are hoping to encourage a substantial turnout but fear that if most



Sunnis stay away from the polls, the legitimacy of the new government will be in doubt.

Iraq's interior minister warned that if the country's Sunni Arab minority bows to rebel threats and stays away from the polls, the nation could descend into civil war.

Falah Hassan al-Nagih a Sunni told reporters he expects Sunni insurgents to escalate attacks before the election, especially in the Baghdad area. Voters are to choose a new 275-member National Assem-

"If any group does not participate in the elections, it will constitute treason," al-Naqib said, adding that "boycotting the elections

will not produce a National Assembly that represents the Iraqi people" but will cause "a civil war that will divide the country."

Allawi said he will boost the

country's armed forces with 70,000 more troops in an effort to take over more security tasks from U.S.-led forces. He said the forces would be "equipped with the most

advanced weapons."
In Mosul, Syrian Catholic Archbishop Basile Georges Casmoussa was freed a day after he was seized

near his church, according to local officials and the Vatican. "I'm happy to have returned to the bishop's office," Casmoussa told Vatican Radio. "I can say that I wasn't mistreated

### U.S. deaths in Iraq

As of Monday, at least 1,366 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1.071 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said. The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is eight higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated at 10 a.m. Friday

The British military has reported 76 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 16; Ukraine, 16; Spain, 11: Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary. Latvia and Kazakhstan report one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,228 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 962 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's num-

The latest deaths reported by the military:

- A soldier who injured Sunday when his vehicle flipped into a canal in western Baghdad died on Monday.
- Three servicemembers were killed in Anbar province. The latest identifications reported by military:
- Army Sgt. Nathaniel T. Swindell, 24, New York; died Saturday in Mosul, Iraq, from a noncombat injury; assigned to the 1st Battalion, 24th Infan-Regiment, Fort Lewis, Wash.

He did not identify his captors but said he did not believe his kidnapping was meant as an attack on the church. Earlier, the Catholic news agency MISNA reported that the 66-year-old archbishop's captors demanded a \$200,000 ransom. AP reporter Sinan Salaheddin contributed to this report.

### Two political candidates assassinated in southern Iraq

BAGHDAD - Assailants in southern Iraq gunned down two candidates running in the Jan. 30 elections for the political coa lition of interim Prime Minister Avad Allawi, a member of the group said Tuesday.

Alaa Hamid, who was running on Allawi's slate of candidates for the 275-member National Assembly, was shot dead Monday in the southern port city of Basra in front of his family, a member of Allawi's Iraqi National Accord said. Hamid was also the denuty chairman of the Iraqi Olympic Committee in Basra The other slain candidate was Riad

Radi, who was running in the local race for Basra's provincial council on a list supported by Allawi's INC, the official said on con dition of anonymity. Masked gunmen fired on his car Sunday as he was driving with his family, the official said.

Sunni Muslim militants who oppose holding the elections have warned candidates not to run. With less than two weeks until the vote, many candidates haven't even announced they're running for fear of attack.

Basra, a predominantly Shiite Muslim city, has been relatively calm in recent weeks. In central Iraq, meanwhile, there have been numerous attacks on polling offices in the past days.

There was violence in Basra on Sunday, as insurgents fired four mortar rounds at schools slated to serve as polling centers.

In Baghdad Monday, masked gunmen shot dead another candidate, Shaker Jabbar Sahla, a Shiite Muslim who was running in the National Assembly election for the Constitutional Monarchy Movement The party is headed by Sharif Ali bin Hussein, a cousin of Iraq's last king.

# **Soldiers learning to expect the unexpected**

### Even distributing election materials gets complicated after a few minutes



Live on the Economy?

Above: Capt. Kevin Capozzoli, commander of Company A, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry, questions an Iraqi laborer about Monday's shooting of a Company A soldier Monday near Ramadi.

Did you know that

Stars and Stripes delivers to

addresses on the local economy?

We are expanding our

off-base delivery all the time.

Call today and find out if

you live within our delivery area.

BY JOSEPH GIORDONO Stars and Stripes

TAMIM, Iraq - Many of the 150,000 U.S. troops in Iraq find themselves wearing a number of different helmets during any single day. Any mission may start out according to plan but take an entirely new direction a few minutes later

While their official job title may be infantryman or supply specialist, troops find themselves working as election boosters, detectives and medics all during the same shift.

On Monday morning, soldiers from Company A, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry - a unit that deployed from South Korea with the 2nd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division - planned to hand out election information and paste up posters encouraging Iraqis to

Before they could get started, though, a radio call came in that one of the company's soldiers had been shot and wounded while manning an observation post near Ramadi. The soldiers with the election material turned into a quick reaction force, converging on where the shooting occurred

The wounded soldier, who was shot in the hip, was evacuated to an aid station near Ramadi, where he was later reported in stable condition.

The other soldiers rounded up a group of young Iragi men working nearby. "We just got shot at. Where did the shots come from? Capt. Kevin Capozzoli, Company A commander, asked each of the men through an interpreter.

Capozzoli questioned each member of the group individually: each pleaded ignorance. Finally, two of the young men admitted to hearing the shot and seeing three men leaving a nearby building right after the incident.

"Sometimes this is almost like police work," Capozzoli said. "These guys were right here, they heard the shot. But they're either afraid to tell us, or they know and they don't want to tell

#### Union delegates

Earlier in the day, the soldiers escorted a pair of U.S. civilian contractors to a police station in Baghdad to offer police leaders a developmental course. The contractors, who work for private firms hired by the Pentagon to retrain the Iraqi police, were instead questioned by the police about pay.

The cops had not been paid for weeks, and the police chief reported that his men would walk off the job if they weren't paid in two days. The contractors and soldiers explained they had nothing to do with their pay, but promised to ask again

#### A closer look

The previous night, Company A soldiers learned that in Iraq, two plus two sometimes does egual five.

through the streets of Tamim a section of Ramadi just across the river from downtown - the soldiers heard a burst of heavy gunfire from within the town. They investigated and found that a group of gunmen had fired on an Iraqi police station; the police had returned fire but hit nothing

According to the police, two or three men in a maroon sedan had fired at the station, then fled into a nearby neighborhood. The soldiers got back into their Humvees, turned a few corners and to their surprise — found three men in a maroon sedan.

Everything seemed to add up. It was the right number of men. acting strangely, out after curfew in a vehicle that matched the description given by police. The soldiers questioned the men and wiped them down with swabs to test for gunpowder residue on their hands and faces, which would indicate they'd recently fired weapons. But there was

A few other soldiers searched the house where the men said they lived. Inside, they found an assault rifle and ammo. A teenage boy inside excitedly showed them pictures of a shot-up BMW: none of the soldiers were sure

But after at least 30 minutes, much pantomiming, and attempts at breaking the language barrier, one of the men produced weapon's permit issued by Company C, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry. They were bodyguards for a local sheik and had been granted permission to carry the weapon. One of the men pulled out a cellular phone and called the sheik.

After a little more discussion and a call to headquarters to check the men's names, the soldiers handed out tip-line phone numbers and asked the men to report any suspicious activity.

"Everything pointed at these being the guys," Capozzoli said. "If they'd come up positive for gunpowder, we'd have taken them in "

E-mail Joseph Giordono at: giordonoj@pstripes.osd.mil

### customerservice@mail.estripes.osd.mil CIV: +49 (0)6155-601-262 • DSN 349-8262



and the lives of your family. Every day

Your Hometown Newspaper



### Rhein BMW presents Valentine's Day Greetings

Brought to you by Stars and Stripes A great way to show you care. Surprise them

with a Valentine's Day Greeting!

Messages in the Mid-East edition begin at no charge! Messages in the European edition start at \$29

\*Five lucky winners, chosen at random will receive an official

BMW-Williams Formula One Team Jacket

Visit www.stripes.com, Click on the link for Valentine's Day

Greetings publish in Stars and Stripes on February 14!

Messages for the Mid-East edition will also publish on www.stripes.com beginning 11 Feb Deadline for messages 27 Jan 05, Drawing on 14 Feb 05

#### British soldier admits abusing Iraqi prisoner

OSNABRUECK, Germany - A British soldier pleaded guilty Tuesday to one count of beating an Iraqi captive, while he and two others pleaded not guilty to all other charges as their court-martial opened on allegations they mistreated Iraqis.

Photos of alleged mistreatment published in a British newspaper in spring 2003 led to investigations against the three men, and it is the first case of alleged abuse of Iraqis by British soldiers to go to trial. As the court-martial opened, Lance Cpl. Darren Larkin, 30, pleaded guilty to battery for assaulting and beating an Iraqi in his custo-

dy. But he pleaded not guilty to indecent conduct for allegedly forcing two Iraqi detainees to undress in front of others.Cpl. Daniel Kenyon, 33, and Lance Cpl. Mark Cooley, 25, pleaded not guilty to



Capt. Colin Williams, left, and 1st Lt. Ed Kaspar chat over a cup of coffee in the 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery's new coffee shop at a U.S. base in Ramadi, Iraq, on Sunday.

### From mortar to mocha — almost

#### Bare-bones coffeehouse in Iraq still bears marks of attack

BY JOSEPH GIORDONO

Stars and Stripes

FORWARD OPERATING BASE RAMADI, Iraq - Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment have taken a near tragedy and turned it into a steaming cup of comfort.

In late October, shortly after the battalion arrived in Ramadi with the rest of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team from South Korea, a single mortar round slammed into the roof of a concrete building in their headquarters compound.

The mortar, which struck in the middle of the day, tore a gaping hole in the concrete and sent shrapnel spraying into the walls.

"Every door around here was blown open, except for the one in my office, which was already open, said 1st Lt. Ed Kaspar, recalling the attack.

Out of sheer luck, nobody was inside the building - which was used as the hattalion's logistics office — when the round struck. Smoke poured from the room, soldiers recall, and everything inside the office was destroyed.

For weeks, the office sat vacant. But now, the battalion has turned it into what might be the best-stocked coffeehouse on a U.S. base in Iraq complete with a natural "skylight" where the mortar round hit

Inside is a trio of salvaged leather chairs, a table

made from a wooden cable spool and a bar fashioned out of plywood. Scores of coffee packets, tea bags, coffee pots, grinders and other accessories line a pair of shelves built into the walls. A compact disc player with small speakers plays music, and a shelf above the door is piled with books.

The coffee is largely provided by soldiers who receive it in care packages from the States. The coffeehouse, like so many other small touches that U.S. servicemembers have dreamed up on bases throughout Iraq, is meant to give soldiers a break from the reality of their missions. It's a far cry from an upscale coffee bar back home, but it does its job, soldiers said.

"We're getting about 15 people a day that come in here now, but once we really get it going and get some people in here, we'll open it up to the whole brisaid Kaspar, a 32-year-old from Oxnard, Calif

On Sunday afternoon, Capt. Colin Williams, a 28-year-old civil affairs officer from Owego, N.Y., stopped in for a cup of coffee. Drinking from a white mug emblazoned with the words "Operation Iraqi Freedom," Williams shot the breeze with the others for a few minutes, then went back to work If the soldiers get their wish, the budding coffee-

ouse could see more improvements.

"We're hoping to get a sponsor to send us some od coffee," Kaspar said. "And our biggest hope is good coffee. a cappuccino machine."

F-mail Iosenh Giordono at: giordonoi@pstripes.osd.mil

# **Reports forecast** a grim future for post-election Iraq

BY WARREN P. STROBEL, JONATHAN S. LANDAY AND JOHN WALCOTT Knight Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON - A series of new U.S. intelligence assessments on Iraq paints a grim pic-

ture of the road ahead and concludes that there's little likelihood that President Bush's goals can be attained in the near future.

Instead of stabilizing the coun try, national elections Jan. 30 are likely to be followed by more violence and could provoke a civil war between majority Shiite Muslims and minority Sunni Mus-lims, the CIA and other intelligence agencies predict, accord-ing to senior officials who've seen the classified reports.

A CIA spokesman, Tom Crispell, said he was unable to comment. A White House spokeswoman had no immediate comment. The federal government was closed Monday for the Mar-

tin Luther King Jr. holiday.

A new public report by the National Intelligence Council concludes that instead of diminishing terrorism, U.S.-occupied Iraq has replaced prewar Afghanistan as a breeding and training ground for terrorists who may disperse to conduct attacks elsewhere.

senior intelligence officials with access to classified renorting said Islamic militants allied with or inspired by Osama bin Laden were forging ties to Iragi nationalists and remnants of former dictator Saddam Hussein's regime. The linkage is simi-lar to the one that so-called "Afghan Arabs" formed with Afghanistan's Taliban regime after the Soviet Union withdrew from that country, they said.

Bush administration claimed before invading Iraq that Saddam had strong ties to international terrorism, but most counter terrorism experts dispute that and no evidence has been found to support the claim.

"The sad thing is we have created what the administration claimed we were intervening to prevent: an Iraq/al-Qaida linkage," one of the senior intelli-gence officials said. The officials who were more

pessimistic spoke on condition of anonymity, because the latest intelligence assessments are classified and their views are at odds with public statements from the White House.

Even in their public remarks, top military officers and poli-cy-makers are becoming more cautionary about the road ahead

All major U.S. intelligence agen-cies share a pessimistic prognosis for Iraq's future, according to a senior administration official. The assessment of the State Departs ment's intelligence bureau is so grim that it's referred to as the "I agree with Scowcroft's analysis"

That's a reference to retired Air Force Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, who was national security adviser to Bush's father. President George H.W. Bush. Scowcroft said earlier this month that the Iraqi elections could deepen the conflict and "we may be seeing an incipient civil war.

Bush and his national security team took issue with Scowcroft's remarks, but the pessimistic indicators have led a growing number of senior U.S. military and intelligence officials to say they worry that the mission in Iraq is becoming untenable for the American military.

The reports, also by the CIA and the Pentagon's Defense Intelligence Agency, were shared and discussed at a recent U.S. intelligence community conference.

### A hero's welcome for former warlord

By Kevin Dougherty

Stars and Strines

HERAT. Afghanistan - The heart of Herat came home to a hero's welcome Tuesday, with upward of 2,000 people and a small detachment of U.S. soldiers on hand to greet him

When he left for Kabul two months ago," Col. Randy Smith said of the send-off for Ismail Khan, "the crowd treated him like he was a rock star. Smith, head of the Regional

Command Area Group-West, had planned to drive south to Shindand with Maj. Gen. Abdul Wahahab Walizada, who commands the Afghan National Army's 207th Corps. The two wanted to check the progress of some new Afghan recruits and their U.S. trainers

But when word spread Monday night that Khan was returning to Herat to celebrate the Muslim festival of Eid. Walizada had to back out While Khan has some detractors in western Afghanistan, he remains the most popular figure on this side of the country

You can see the crowd outside the airport," Afghan army Brig. Gen. Fazil Ahmad Sayar, the corps' chief of staff said through an interpreter. "They are ready

That's how people in the region refer to Khan, a former warlord who, after some reluctance, agreed to support the transitional government. Khan now runs the Ministry of Water and Electricity in Kabul

Smith and his men didn't come to provide security: the ANA was taking care of that They came to support Walizada. and possibly meet Khan. A company of 120 Afghan sol-

diers managed to keep well-wish-ers at bay, allowing them to crowd around the perimeter of

Several of them clutched portraits and bumper stickers of their magnetic leader, a man who elped to drive the former Soviet

Union out of Afghanistan.

"Long life for I.K.." one young follower repeatedly shouted as he led a group chant.

Off to the side stood a dozen young girls dressed in ceremonial outfits. They sang traditional Afghan songs, while elder women clad in burkas stood by like ner-

vous stage mothers. When Khan's airplane landed and taxied up to the terminal, the



KEVIN DOUGHERTY/Stars and Strings

A group of Afghan girls sing in support of local hero Ismail Khan, a rmer warlord who now heads the Ministry of Water and Electricity, in his hometown of Herat on Tuesday.

men swarmed it. Confetti flew and the men jostled to get a better view. Before long, Khan was riding in a motorcade heading to his house for a weekend of cele-

"I am hopeful for Afghanistan."

Sayar said. "We are looking for a new generation to take the lead. On this day, however, the youth

were no match for a star named

E-mail Kevin Dougherty at: doughertyk@mail.estripes.

### IN THE WORLD

## **U.N.** meets to discuss tsunami aftermath

BY CHARLES J. HANLEY

KOBE, Japan — In the wake of an ocean wave that horrified an unready world, hundreds of U.N. conference delegates Tuesday got down to the business of finding ways to give man more of an edge in an age-old battle with the

worst of nature.

"We must draw and act on every lesson we can," U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan told participants in the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, which opened with a moment of silence for more than 160,000 people killed in the Dec. 26 earth-quake-tsunami that ravaged coasts across south Asia.

"The world looks to this conference to help make communities and nations more resilient in the face of natural disasters," Annan said in his videotaped message.

said in his videotaped message. The first day's agenda for the five-day meeting focused on routes to resilience: by protecting such critical facilities as hospitals and power plants against damage; building earthquake-safe structures, and bolstering communications systems, among others.

The Japanese government announced it would refocus its foreign aid program to put more emphasis on disaster reduction. Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, addressing the conference, also said his government would offer tsunami-warning training to countries struck by the powerful, earthquake-spawned wave that sped across the Indian Ocean last month.

An immediate conference goal is to lay the foundation for an Indian Ocean alert network like the one on guard for tsumamis in the Pacific UNESCO is presenting a blueprint for a system of deep-water buoys, tide gauges and a regional alert center that would cost \$30 million and go into operation by mid-2006. Several sessions here will deal with the practicalities of the plan.

"Rarely has a tragedy made a conference so topical and timely as this one," Annan said.

as uns one, Annan sau.

His U.N. emergency coordinator, Jan Egeland, told reporters
he hopes governments and U.N.
agencies will make a "strong commitment" here to establish the Indian Ocean system. He also said
he believed that over the next 10
years all vulnerable populations
will be covered by advance warning systems.

Beyond the "hardware," Egeland said, children should be educated to the risks of disasters; hos-



Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi speaks to the U.N. World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Kobe, Japan, on Tuesday.

pitals, clinics and schools should be viewed as safe havens and built to withstand quakes, cyclones and other disasters; and all disaster-prone countries should adopt "action plans" to deal with the threats.

The conference has drawn some 4,000 delegates and other participants from 150 countries.

## U.N. lifts travel ban on aid workers in Indonesia

BY BURT HERMAN The Associated Press

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia— The United Nations on Tuesday lifted a travel ban on aid workers in Indonesia's tsunami-battered Aceh province, the scene of a decades-long conflict between rebels and government forces that has raised concerns about the safety of relief efforts.

As aid work picked up speed in worst-hit Aceh province, even war-torn Afghanistan joined in the relief efforts, sending a 20-strong team including 12 military doctors who departed Kabul for Indonesia with medical equipment, blankets and dried fruit.

and dried truit.

The United Nations imposed a 24-hour travel ban on its staff in parts of Aceh on Monday following reports that fighting had broken out between insurgents and the Indonesian army.

U.N. security consultant Werner Van den Berg said the world body decided not to renew the ban after speaking with Indonesian police in the coastal city of Lhoksaumawe about reported fighting there. Col. Nachrowi Djazairi, a spokesman for the Indonesian

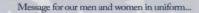
spokesman for the Indonesian military in Banda Aceh, said he had received reports of a rebel attack on the road that apparently sparked Monday's fears, but had few further details.

ly spaned wounday reads, our had few further details. The Free Aceh Movement rebels, who have been fighting for autonomy for the province since 1976, have dismissed Indonesian government allegations they would attack relief convoys to steal food for fighters.

Other aid groups and foreign roops helping in the mammoth relief effort in Aceh said they were working as normal, and a U.S. military spokesman said American forces did not believe the security situation had changed in recent days.

"We're coordinating our force

"We're coordinating our force protection measures with the Indonesian government and taking appropriate security measures." U.S. Marine Capt. Joe Plenzler said. "We've been doing that since the start, it's nothing new."



### WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!

From coast to coast, thousands of Americans are grateful for what you do and want to show you that they care. To see the actions and messages of support from these groups and individuals from all across America, visit www.stripes.com.

This is just a small token of appreciation, a way to say...





Please visit the site at www.stripes.com and click on the America Supports You button to view

America Supports You button to view the messages of support and to submit your own thank you notes as well!





# Airbus unveils new superjumbo jetliner

BY LAURENCE FROST

The Associated Press

TOULOUSE, France — Airbus showed off its giant A380, a double-decked behemoth that could revolutionize long-haul flying, at a lavish ceremony Tuesday with European leaders gathered for the first official look at the world's largest passenger plane.

Airbus is betting its newfound status as the world's leading jet maker on the "superjumbo" that has an 262-foot wingspan, a tail as tall as a seven-story building and cost billion \$13 billion to develop.

The leaders of France, Britain, Germany and Spain — Airbus' government backers — and CEOs from the 14 airlines and freight transporters that have ordered A380s attended the elaborate ceremony at company headquarters in Toulouse, southern France.

"We may have reached for the stars ... but as far as the aeronautical industry is concerned we caught some of those stars," said German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, who called the A380 a "triumph of European science and European engineering."

French President Jacques Chirac said "this veritable liner of the skies will mark aviation history," while British Prime Minister Tony Blair praised the A380 as the "only commercial plane designed from the



Airbus employees throw their caps in the air next to the new Airbus A380 on Tuesday after its unveiling ceremony, near Toulouse, southwestern France. The A380 double-decked superjumbo jet is the world's largest passenger plane.

outset to minimize the impact on the envi-

The show before almost 5,000 guests included music, clouds of dry ice and dancers in the A380 assembly hangar, one of the largest enclosed spaces in Europe.

The A380's launch seemed certain to be-

come a milestone in civil aviation history alongside the 747 and Concorde. Unlike the supersonic Concorde, however, whose claim to fame was how fast it crossed the Atlantic, this latest fruit of European aerospace cooperation will ultimately be judged on how fast it makes money. Airbus already has 149 orders for the \$280 million plane, "which for a plane of this size that has not yet flown is an extraordinary commercial performance," CEO Noel Forgeard said.

Airbus says companies have options on dozens more and that the program will break even after 250 sales — an objective it hopes to reach within three years.

"At the end of the day, the A380 will be a very successful airplane," said Jon Ash, president of InterVISTAS-ga2, a Washington-based aviation consulting firm.

Ash said the A380 will be an enticing aircraft for carriers on long-haul, high-density markets, whereas the 747 will be a "viable alternative" to other carriers.

Airbus hopes to sell 750 superjumbos to airlines operating services between the busiest airports, mainly in Asia, which serve as hubs, or stopovers between connecting flights.

In a three-class cabin layout, the A380 will carry 555 passengers — 33 percent more than the 747. The A380 has 49 percent more floor space — leaving additional room for features such as on-board shops, bars, casinos or even nurseries.

Singapore Airlines will begin using the plane for service to London and Sydney when it becomes the first carrier to carry commercial passengers aboard the A380 in mid-2006, Chew Choon Seng, CEO of Singapore Airlines, said.

### 2 million Muslims travel to Saudi Arabia for hajj

The Associated Press

JIDDAH, Saudi Arabia — Chanting, "Oh Allah I'm here," pilgrims draped in white garments began streaming into the tent city of Mina to take part in rituals symbolizing the life of their 7th century prophet.

Two million people travel to the holy cities in Saudi Arabia each year to participate in the halj, or pligrimage, which Muslims believe cleanses the soul and wipes away sins. Over \$0,000 security forces have been deployed in response to terrorism fears and to prevent stampeding and other problems that have believed the annual hali in recent vears.

Many pilgrims remain concerned about numerous hazards such as stampedes and fires that have killed hundreds of pilgrims in recent years.

"I will pray for the tsunami victims, but my immediate concern is that Allah enables us to complete our pilgrimage safe and sound," said Nigerian doctor Mokhtar Ahmed. 30.

In addition to the burden of hosting 2 million visitors, Saudi authorities have expressed concerns about terrorism and the soread of diseases.

The kingdom has mobilized countert-

errorism squads and set up medical centers to treat sick pilgrims.

The site of the stoning ritual where pilgrims have been stampeded has been developed to smooth the flow of pilgrims. A stampede last year left 244 pilgrims dead and another in 1990 killed 1,426 people.

The pilgrims begin the rituals by first circling the Kaaba, a large stone structure that Muslims face during their five daily prayers. They then continue to spend a night in the tent city of Mina, and head the next day to pray at Mount Arafat, the central rite of the pilgrim-

The pilgrims later head to Muzdalifah, where they collect pebbles overnight, and throw pebbles the next day at three pillars symbolizing the devil. Many pilgrims then shave or trim their hair as a symbol of rebirth.

A camel, sheep or cow is slaughtered the day after the hajj to mark the beginning of Eid al-Adha, or the Feast of the Sacrifice.

Saudi Arabia has set up a mammoth tent city in Mina, with more than 40,000 white, fireproof tents to house the pilgrims. Dozens of trucks will roam the

streets, offering food and drink.

Dozens of fire engines will be on



A pilgrim talks on his mobile phone at the Great Mosque in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, on Monday. More than two million Muslims will spend Tuesday night in Mina before heading to Arafat on Wednesday for the main day of the annual pilgrimage.

standby in the city surrounded by colossal mountains.

The pilgrimage is required of able-bodied Muslims at least once in a lifetime, if they can afford it. Pilgrims travel to the cities of Mecca, Mina, Arafat and Muzdalifa.

#### Report: Cars go unchecked

MONTREAL, Quebec — More than a dozen cars have barreled through a major Canada-U.S. border crossing in the last six weeks without being stopped by Canadian authorities, according to a news report.

A total of 18 vehicles sped unchecked through the Lacolle crossing 30 miles south of Montreal between Dec. 7 and Jan. 2, the Radio-Canada television network reported Monday, citing numbers compiled by Customs agent.

Customs spokesman Dominic McNeely dismissed the report and insisted security at the Lacolle crossing remains tight.

#### 36 arrested in drug sting

ROME — Italian police arrested 31 people Tuesday in a crackdown on a crime ring they say smuggled cocaine and hashish from Spain to Italy.

Police in Lanciano, central Italy, made the arrests before dawn while searching apartments in the area with the help of sniffer dogs and a helicopter. Police there said at least six of those arrested were South American.

In a separate case, police in the northern Italian city of Padova said they made five arrests and seized 48 pounds of cocaine and hashish when searching a car on the outskirts of the city Sunday.

#### Pope, Jewish leaders meet

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II called for renewed commitment to stronger dialogue between Jews and Catholics as he warmly received more than 100 Jewish leaders, rabbis, cantors and their family members Tuesday in what was described as the largest such Vatican audience with Jewish representatives.

From The Associated Press



#### IN THE STATES

# **Rice faces State hearing**

BY ANNE GEARAN The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Secretary of State nominee Condoleezza Rice told senators on Tuesday that a U.S. exit strategy from Iraq is "directly proportional" to Iraq's ability to defend itself against terrorists after this month's elections

Stepping out from her largely behind-the-scenes role as Presi dent Bush's national security adviser. Rice said she could not give Congress a timetable for American disengagement.

"The goal is to get the mission accomplished," she said. "We're right now focused on security for the [Jan. 30] election."

Rice told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that spreading democracy through the Middle East remains a top administration foreign-policy objective.

The Palestinian election earlier this month following the death of Yasser Arafat offers "a moment of opportunity," she said. But Rice also said Palestinian leaders need to do more to end acts of terrorism against Israel, saying peace hopes will be dashed if such violence continues

She raised the possibility that Bush might name an envoy to the Palestinians, but said timing was



Condoleezza Rice

an issue. "No one has objections in principle" to such an envoy, she said, but Rice added that "it is a question over whether that is appropriate" at this time.

Rice pledged Tuesday to work to mend and strengthen ties with allies frayed by Iraq. "The time for diplomacy is now," she told senators at her hearing to replace Colin Powell as secretary of state.

"The time for diplomacy is long overdue," retorted Sen. Joseph Biden, the senior Democrat on the

Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He told her the United States is "paying a heavy price" for the administration's policy in Iraq.

Despite pointed questioning from Biden and other committee Democrats, Senate confirmation of Rice - Bush's most trusted foreign policy confidante - was all but assured

Rice insisted that the administration's actions in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks - including wars in Afghanistan and Iraq — were "difficult, and necessary and right."

"If I am confirmed, public diplomacy will be a top priority for me and for the professionals I lead. Rice said in an apparent attempt to ease concerns of those who suggested Bush's foreign policy was too unilateral and unaccommodat-

ing over the past four years. Rice was closely grilled on the situation about Iraq.

Biden said the administration must "level with the American people" over an exit strategy and whether U.S. troop levels there are adequate.

"I would not presume to try to give the president military ad-vice, but I do believe that he got good military advice and I do believe that the plan and the forces that we went in with were appropriate to the task," she said.



Don Kozak uses a snowblower to clear his driveway Monday in North Kingsville, Ohio. An Arctic freeze is blanketing an area reaching from the Northeast down to north Florida — where temperatures were in the highr 20s Tuesday morning.

### Arctic temperatures take toll on Northeast

The Associated Press

ROCHESTER, N.Y. - A deep Arctic freeze refused to relin quish its grip over the Northeast and Midwest early Tuesday, keeping teeth chattering and temperatures at bone-chilling lows.

At least three deaths were blamed on the cold in Michigan. After a relatively mild winter in the Northeast, brisk winds made

it feel as cold as minus-20 degrees in western New York and minus-45 degrees in the Adirondacks in northern New York.

The cold blast will extend

through Tuesday, with temperatures spiking as high as 30 de-grees Wednesday. "Then we go back into a deep freeze for the end of the week with temperatures not making it out of the teens," Buffalo's chief meteorolo-

The Associated Press

preme Court on Tuesday dodged

a dispute over the government's

plans to conduct military trials

for Osama bin Laden's former driver and other foreign terror

suspects, avoiding another clash

WASHINGTON - The Su-

gist Tom Niziol said Monday

The frozen body of Kathryn Jeanne Gates was found in Minneanolis on Sunday morning, hours after her motorized scooter tipped over and she was unable to get back up, police said. Overnight temperatures were below zero.

In Michigan's Wayne County, a man in his 50s who was believed to be homeless was found frozen to death Sunday in a grassy area near a sidewalk

In Oceana County in western Michigan, a 24-year-old man and a 19-year-old woman were found dead Saturday, apparently from carbon monoxide from a propane heater used to heat a trailer

The chill was felt as far south as Florida, where low temperatures Tuesday morning were re-ported in the high 20s and low 30s for northern Florida.

# with a perfect match from

your credit union.

Introductory

through 12/24/05 on balance transfers to your KFCU credit card Transfer your higher rate balances to your Keesler Federal credit card before

3/31/05 and enjoy a low 2.9% APR on those transferred balances until 12/24/05.

Also eniov low, fixed rates on purchases and cash advances:

MasterCard®

Classic VISA/Standard





amo Bay Navy base in Cuba. They Salim Ahmed Hamdan is a Ye-

meni charged with conspiracy to commit war crimes, murder and terrorism.

Also on Tuesday, the Supreme

Court declined to review an Air Force lieutenant's criminal convic-tion for having sex with a 15-year-old boy, which the officer contended was protected by a previous court decision overturning state laws criminalizing gay sev

Justices, without comment, re-jected the appeal by Second Lt. Ryan W. Davis. He pleaded guilty to consensual sodomy and con-duct unbecoming to an officer in military court following an April 1997 meeting with a boy

#### Va. man admits guilt in oil-for-food conspiracy

U.S. Supreme Court sidesteps Gitmo case

WASHINGTON - An Iraqi-American businessman pleaded guilty Tuesday to charges he received payments from Iraq to illegally act as its agent in the United States, including getting millions of dollars worth of oil from the United Nations' oil-for-food program. Samir A. Vincent, a naturalized U.S. citizen from Annandale, Va.,

entered the guilty pleas in federal court in New York to four criminal counts, according to Attorney General John Ashcroft. Vincent faces up to 28 years in prison.

Apply for your KFCU credit card by calling 0-800-585-765 visit any KFCU office, or print an application online at www.kfcu.org



# President Bush says he has 'big agenda in mind'

BY NEDRA PICKLER

WASHINGTON — As President Bush prepares to take office for a second term this week, he says he is worried that people "kind of write me off" before he can get things done.

Bush said Monday he has "a big agenda in mind," which includes his campaign promises to overhaul Social Security and the legal liability system; improve the tax code, school standards and the budget

process; and make health care accessible to more Americans.

He acknowledges that four years is not a lot of time to get it all done but says he hopes Republicans and Democrats can unite now that all of his campaigns are behind him.

"The good news is I'm not running again, so maybe politics won't creep in quite as fast," he told CBS News during a round of network interviews Monday afternoon. "We got to get moving and get some things done before—before people kind of write me off."

Bush said unity across party lines will be the most important message in his inaugural address.

"I have a responsibility to try to unite this country to achieve big things for all Americans," Bush told ABC News. "I will say that in my inaugural address. I'm looking forward to the challenge."

Before the president delivers his State of the Union address, Iraqis will hold the first elections for their new government, but turnout is expected to be limited by the threat of violence at the polls. Bush said the elections are proving to be "a little bumpy," but the fact that they are being held at all is a success.

"The fact that there's a vote is fantastic," Bush told NBC News.

"I think having a vote is important to them. They're staying away because of fear, not because they don't want to vote," he said. "This is just step one of a series of important steps toward an emergence of a democratic Iraq, and America will be more secure in the long run."

44 The good news is I'm not running again, so maybe politics won't creep in quite as fast. We got to get moving and get some things done before —

before people kind of write me off.

President George W. Bush

Asked on the "Today" show whether it would be more difficult now to launch a pre-emptive attack against a country deep to represent a threat, Bush said, "We hope we don't have to. Bush is we had to, to protect America, by you know if all else failed and less failed and less failed and to. Bush is we had to, to be a support to the contract the citizens of the United States, Intitled States, Intitled States, Intitled States, Intale States and the work of the support of

On concerns about the possibility that Iran could pose such a threat with a nuclear weapons capability, the president said, "I hope we can solve it diplomatically but I will never take any option off the table."

Besides Bush's swearing in on Thursday, the inaugural week festivities include a salute to America's military and several lavish balls. Bush said he does not agree with critics who say all the pomp is excessive in a time of war and with last month's devastating tsunami. "T've never been much of a dancer, and the idea of going to 11 balls might be viewed as excessive." he ioked on CBS.

sive," he joked on CRS.

Bush said it is important to celebrate a "peaceful transfer of
power" and that he suspects inaugural guests have been generous
in donating to tsunami victims.

"You can be equally concerned
about our troops in Iraq and those
who suffered at the tsunamis with
celebrating democracy." he said.

The president opened the inaugural week Monday with a salute to his departing 
secretary of state, 
Colin Powell, and 
the late Martin 
Luther King Jr. 
on the official observance of the

slain civil rights leader's birthday. Bush called Powell "one of the most effective and admired diplomats in America's history."

Bush presented Powell and his wife, Alma, with the John Thompson Legacy of a Dream Award for representing King's ideals and commitment to community ser-

In an interview Monday, civil rights leader Jesse Jackson said Bush has failed to live up to King's legacy on public policy or social justice. He criticized the president for cutting social services, failing to raise the minimum raise, leading a war with "no moral legitimacy" and refusing to meet with civil rights leaders.

"Extolling plaudits on an outstanding individual is no substitute for a commitment to enforcing civil rights laws," Jackson

### Command post brings 50 agencies together on inaugural security

BY CURT ANDERSON

WASHINGTON — Far from the Capitol building where President Bush will take the oath of office, dozens of officials from 50 federal, state and local agencies will work side by side in a high-tech command center keeping close tabs on the security situation for the first presidential inauguration since the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks.

At 120 work stations in the northern Virginia center and using giant video screens, law enforcement and security personnel will be able to watch from camerus hat monitor downtown Washington streets, keep track of aerial surveillance lights and check sensors scanning for evidence of deadly biological or chemical agents.

"If there is a piece of technology that exists, we've put it to use for this event," said Jim Rice, the FBI supervisory agent for Thursday's inauguration.

Inursday's inauguration.
For the first time, all the federal agencies that deal with security, law enforcement and crisis response to the second second to the second second to the second seco

For this event, that officer is Tim Koerner, a top deputy in the Secret Service, which is the lead agency for the inaugural security effort.

The idea is to improve coordition among the various federal agencies, especially if there is a terrorist attack or other major disruption and there is an immediate need for such things as medical attention for casualties, hostage rescue or SWAT teams and investigative specialists such as FRI browt technicians

Law enforcement officials say that locating all officials under one roof will eliminate confusion and duplication, as well as enable them to quickly determine whether there's a real threat or problem or if it's just a

false alarm.
"When an incident first happens, in the first 30 minutes, probably about 75 percent of the information you get is wrong," Rice said. "Being able to look the guy in the eye that you're talking to, that eliminates a lot of problems."

The field office will command Coast Guard cutters and helicopters, canine bomb-sniffing units, customs aircraft, bicycle patrols, crowd control and a host of other security and law enforcement assets.

Immigration, terrorism and criminal databases will be close by watched for any suspicious matches of people arriving in the United States or placed under arrest somewhere in the country. Commercial air traffic will be watched closely.

The centralized command center should also help with the roughly 2,000 out-of-town police officers — the largest group of reinforcements ever brought in for the swearing-in — who began arriving in Washington on Tuesday to aid the inauguration.

The Washington Post reported that officers are coming from 85 law enforcement agencies, large and small, including volunteers from Los Angeles, Seattle; Charleston, W.Va.; and Burleson County, Texas. Most will be stationed along the parade route or at other high-profile events.

Authorities traditionally seek help from outside agencies for the inauguration. But this time, the security demands were heightened because this is the first inauguration since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. The outside officers will join about 4,000 personnel from the Police, U.S. Park Police and other area agencies — forming an unprecedented security net.

#### New presidential wheels



NEDAL MOTORE/A

This 2006 Cadillac DTS Presidential Limousine will make its debut Thursday during President Bush's inaugural parade. President Bush will preview Cadillac's newest model when he takes the traditional ride down Pennsylvania Avenue in his second inaugural parade. GM, whose luxury Cadillac brand has provided transportation for numerous presidents, will introduce the actual production model of the DTS at next month's Chicaco Auto Show.



featuring Apostle Gary and Prophetess Phyllis Morton from the Solid Book Christian Center

lid Rock Christian Center Huntsville, Alabama

Services are scheduled to begi 7 p.m. at the Mighty Warrior Christian Cente

Mighty Warrior Christian Cent Bishop Willie and Minister Carolyn Courtney

Tel: 08224-765-569
Minister Dean & Victoria Courtney
Tel: 08227-55-965
Deacon Haroid & Cynthia Hughes
Tel: 08221-75-6788
Minister Timothy & Neksohla Giber
Tel: 08221-75-6788
mister Harvey & Kim C



# Mass. clergy child rape trial set to begin

### Defrocked priest Shanley accused of molesting parishioners

By DENISE LAVOIE The Associated Press

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. - Paul Shanley, who was defrocked by the Vatican in 2004, was to go on trial Tuesday on child rape charges in one of a handful of criminal cases that prosecutors have been able to bring against priests accused of molesting their young parishioners

Most of the priests accused in civil lawsuits have avoided criminal prosecution because the alleged crimes were committed so long ago that charges were barred by the statute of

But because Shanley moved out of Massachusetts, the clock stopped, allowing prosecu-tors to arrest him in May 2002 for sexual abuse that allegedly took place between 1979

Shanley became one of the most notorious figures in the clergy sex scandal after internal church documents were released showing officials knew about allegations church against him as early as 1967 yet continued to transfer him from parish to parish.

Prosecutors started out with four alleged victims, who said they were sexually abused by Shanley at St. Jean's parish in Newton when they were children. The men told similar stories of being taken out of religious education classes and raped by Shanley, in the church rectory, confessional and restroom.

But prosecutors dropped two of the alleged victims from the case and plan to drop a third before testimony begins, leaving only one ac-Shanley's lawyer, Frank Mondano, has

made it clear he will argue that the man made

in a civil lawsuit.

All of the alleged victims settled civil lawsuits with the Boston Archdiocese in April 2004. The exact monetary terms were not disclosed, but an attorney for the men has said each received more than \$300,000. That was the maximum settlement received by 550 other alleged abuse victims in an \$85 million settlement reached with the archdiocese in September 2003.

Prosecutors have asked Judge Stephen Neel to bar Shanley's defense from introducing evidence of the civil settlement. The judge has not vet ruled on the request.

Shanley's defense also plans to challenge the man's claims of repressed memories. The man said he did not remember the abuse until after the clergy scandal erupted in Boston three years ago.



Paul Shanley

### La Conchita mudslide to stay put

BY FRED ALVAREZ Los Angeles Times

LA CONCHITA, Calif. - In a setback for residents trying to rebuild their town, Ventura County officials said Monday that the mound of earth that buried 13 homes and killed 10 people last week in La Conchita should remain there indefinitely because moving it would be too dangerous.

County workers are fencing off the mud pile and plan to leave it in place to buttress the unstable hillside that rises 600 feet above the coastal community between Ventura and Santa Barbara. At least 400,000 tons of earth swamped the town leaving a mass of mud and debris measuring 30 feet deep in places

"If it's touched, it can move again and cause another slide," said Supervisor John Flynn. "I say leave it where it is.

slide or risk making things worse, said County Ex-ecutive Officer Johnny Johnston, adding that there has even been talk of replacing some of the dirt removed during the rescue operation to help shore up the massive mud pile.

"It just stands to reason that a certain equilibrium or balance can be achieved by keeping it in Johnston said, "We're not touching that,"

La Conchita has been the site of numerous landslides over the last century, including one in 1995, when an estimated 600,000 tons of mud crushed nine ocean-view homes during a powerful March storm. No one was killed in that landslide

In the wake of that slide, officials decided gainst trying to move the mound. Rather, they placed a chain-link fence around the slide area and three badly damaged homes, freezing in time the fury of that day.

#### Law to combat driver's license fraud

New federal standards aim to combat identity fraud - and terrorism - by beefing up requirements for driver's licenses. The law standardizes the documents needed to obtain a license and mandates



Source- Department of Homeland Security

#### **New Computers** and Lantons!!! No Down Payment Required!! **Visit Us Today!** www.militarycomputers.us E-1 AND ABOVE APPROVED

#### 'Frank' to be biopsied

RICHMOND, Va. - A 9-yearold boy whose mother launched an online auction to help pay for a biopsy on her son's tumor will have the procedure done for free, his mother said

Dr. Hrayr Shahinian of the kull Base Institute at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center agreed to perform the biopsy free of charge on the tumor young David said Frank Groff, spokesman for the Los Angeles institute. David's parents had been auc-tioning off a bumper sticker reading "Frank Must Die" on eBay to

raise money for the procedure David named the tumor at the ase of his skull after Frankenstein, who used to scare him until he dressed up as the monster for Halloween.

The little boy was diagnosed in May 2003 with a grapefruit-sized malignant tumor called a rhabdomyosarcoma. Chemotherapy shrank it to the size of a peach pit but David needs a specialized biopsy to determine whether the tumor is still cancerous, his mother and doctor said

#### Fen-phen talks

PHILADELPHIA — Lawyers for the drug maker Wyeth and lawyers representing people suing the company over diet drugs have asked a federal judge here to approve a stay of litigation so that set-tlement talks could move forward.

Such a settlement would affect thousands who suffered heart valve damage after taking the

so-called fen-phen diet drug.

The request for a stay, which lawyers involved in thousands of suits announced Tuesday, came as The Wall Street Journal reported that Wyeth had reached a tenta-tive settlement framework with a group of plaintiffs' lawyers for nearly all the remaining liability cases

### Privacy advocates pan standardized driver

BY ROBERT TANNER The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Privacy advocates are warning that the new federal standards for driver's li a common form of photo identification in the United States - will centralize information that can be misused. Government officials say they're just trying to close a security loophole, and that the worries are over-

The federal intelligence overhaul that became law last month while creating a new national intelligence director and beefing up border patrols - also aims to close loopholes for identity fraud that some of the Sept. 11 terrorists used to get aboard the jets they hijacked in 2001. People

boarding U.S. airplanes must show photo identification. Driver's licenses vary by state but they all feature a photo and personal information such as

home address and date of birth. "There is a strong sense of protection of privacy by all of the ad-ministrators of DMV [Department of Motor Vehicles] records, because we know the value of the information we've been entrusted with," said George Tatum, North Carolina's Department of Motor Vehicle commissioner, "We just want you to be who you say you ane

The small provision in the massive intelligence overhaul doesn't take effect immediately. It requires 18 months of deliberation by state and federal officials, and others.

States can opt out - refuse to make changes to their driver's li-censes that will be required under the federal law - but then the licenses would be useless for any federal purpose, from getting benefits to boarding an airplane guarded by federal screeners.

The intelligence law aims to standardize the documents drivers present to get a license, the ways DMV workers verify that those documents are authentic. the information included on a license and the steps authorities take to ensure licenses can't be forged. The law also requires that licenses can be read by machines.



CONTACT LENSES Contact lenses delivered

worldwide

E U R @ eurolenscontactlenses.com Germany 0800 1822593 0800897275

> Belgium 0800 73195 Spain

9009 93967

Holland 0800 0221447 Italy 800 015480

Contact us today for more information or a free catalog

### STARS STRIPES | LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THOMAS E. KELSCH, Publisher THOMAS BIERMANN, General Manager, Europe LT. COL. CYRIL J. SOCHA, Commander

#### News and Editorial

News afto Editorial Director DOUG CLAWSON, Managing Editor ROBB GRINDSTAFF, Associate Editor RAM AMRREIN, Europe Bureau Chief SCOTT BURGESS, Middle East Bureau Chief JOE GROMELSKI, Electronic Edition Editor ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITORS:

Peter Photikoe Photo/Granhics

#### Addresses

U.S. MAIL: Unit 29480, APO AE 09211 INTERNATIONAL MAIL: Postfach 1330, 64345 Griesheim.

FAX: DSN 349-8416; civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601416 E-MAIL: News: pews@mail.orb

E-MMLR. News. news@mail estripses.osd.mil Lettlers: lettlers/@mail estripses.osd.mil CENTRAL 0FFICE: 529 14th Sheet NW, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1301. Phone DSN 312-783-0900 or civ. (+1) (202) 761-0900. Fax (+1) (202) 761-0890 EUTORAL DIEECTOR: David Mazzella, 529 14th St. NW, Suite 330, Washington, DC 20045-1301. Phone DSN 312-763-0945 or civ. (+1) (202) 761-0845.

azzarellad@stripes.osd.mil

OMBUDSMAN: Joe Ungaro. Send comments to: Ombudsman, S and Stripes, 529 14th St. NW, Suite 350, Washington, 20045-1301. Phone civilian (+1) (401) 364-6032; (+1) (401) 364-8596;

or p.mail. ombudeman@strings and mil.

#### How to call us

Editor: DSN 349-8237: civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601237 Letters: DSN 349-8400: civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601400 Sports: DSN 349-8225: civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601225 Circulation: DSN 349-8437; civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601437 Advertising: DSN 349-8335/443; civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601335/443

#### News Bureaus

GERMANY (Country code +49)

Bamberg: Rick Emert, 279th BSB, Unit 27535, Bαx 23541, APO 09139-7535, tel. DSN 469-7957 or civ. (0) 951/36896; fax D 469-8007 or civ. (0) 951/308906; fax D 469-8007 or civ. (0) 951/308906 and civ. (0) 951/308906 and

Baumholder: Terry Boyd, 222nd BSB, APO AE 09034; tel. DSN 485-6089, or civ. (0) 6783-900776; e-mail:

mail.estripes.osd.mil boydt@mail.estripes.osd.mil Darmstadt: Kevin Dougherty, Unit 29480, APO AE 09211; tel. DSN 349-8406 or civ. (0) 6155-601406:

349-3405 or cir. (I) 6155-501006-e-mail dougher/comail astropes and mil. Ward Sanderson, Unit 29480, APO & 50211; tel. ISSN 349-3256 or cir. (Vid. 1955-61026; e-mail sanderson/mail astropes cod mil.) and 455-50126; e-mail sanderson/mail astropes cod mil.) and 455-50126; e-mail sanderson/mail astropes and mil. (Vid. 1955-61026); e-mail sings/comail astropes and mil. (Vid. 1955-61026); e-mail sings/comail astropes and mil. (Vid. 1955-61026); e-mail sings/comail astropes and million the complex sings and million t

Kaiserslautern/Spangdahlem: APO AE 09227-3717; tel. DSN 489-6585 or civ. (0) 631/52104 or (0) 631/57140; fax civ. (0)

631;50:906

Stuttgart: Charrie Coon, CMR 423, Box 465, APO AE 09107-0465; tel. DSN 421-2088 or civ. 0711-7292088; e-mail: coonc@mail.estripes.sosf.mil Wirzburg: Stee Liever, Tel. DSN 350-6508 or civ. 0931-467-7001; fax civ. (0) 0931-700372; e-mail: liewers@mail.estripes.sosf.mil

ITALY

Nriano/Vicenza: Kent Harris, Ibl. ISDN G146 532-7552 or civ. G39 0434-65-7552, second line ISBN G146 532-7552 or civ. G39 0434-65-4752, second line ISBN G146 632-4222 or civ. G39 0434-65-4222, e-mails. harris/sellmatsireps and mill Rapless: Sandra Jontz and Jason Chudy, PSC 817, Ben 55, PFO 46 05522; bl. EDS 875-5153 or dix C5-5153 or dix C5-5153 or civ. (1-39) (081) 568-5151 and 568-5156, for Line ISBN 675-5150 or civ. (1-39) (081) 568-5150 or civ. (1 chudvi@mail.estripes.osd.mil

SPAIN Rota: Sont Schonauer, PSC 818, Box 1, FPO AE 09645, tel. DSN 727-1099 or ziv. (+34) (558, Bez-1099, faz DSN 727-1034 or ziv. (+34) (558, Bez-1099, faz DSN 727-1034 or ziv. (+34) (558, Bez-1039) faz DSN 727-1034 or e-mail: schonauers@-mail.ethpsc.sod.mil WINTED XINDCOM BAF Mildenhail: Ron Jerson, Buding 455 ESSS UK, RAF Mildenhail. APO AE 0459, bit DSN 234-868 or ziv. (+44) (IV 1538) 44488, faz ziv. (+44) (IV) 15397 18013; e-mail: instancinal estatipsc.sod.mil

#### Bureau editor: Patrick Dickson, 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1301; tel. (+1) (202) 761-0859; e-mail:

dicksonp@stripes.osd.mi ucwsunpigesuipes.osd.mil Lisa Burgess, tel civ. (+1) (703) 692-1875; Jon Anderson. tel ci (703) 695-9524; and Leo Shane, 529 14th Street NW, St Washington DC 20045-1301; tel civ. (+1) (202) 761-1183; v. (+1) (202) 761-0890, e-mail: burgessl@stripes.osd.mil soni@stripes.osd.mil and shanel@stripes.osd.mil

#### Printed in Italy by Editrice Telestamps

Stars and Stripes (USPS 017252) is published daily (except Christma and New Year's) for 50 cents daily and \$1 Sunday by the Stars and Stripe central office, 529 14th St. NW, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1301. Peri odicals postage paid at Washington, D.C. Postmaster: Send address changes to European Stars and Stripes, Unit 29480, APO AE 09211. © European and Pacific Stars and Stripes 2004

C Europeas and Pacific Stars and Stripes 2004

It is everage in a section for publication by Department of Desires for tendency of the Millips' Services services. However, the contents of the Millips' Services services. However, the contents of the Comment, resident as the Millips' services services services services services and the Millips' services services services services services and the Millips' services services services services and the Millips' services services services and the Millips' services services and the publication of the Millips' services services and the Millips' services services and the publication of the Millips' services services and the Millips' services services and the publication of the Millips' services and the Millips' services services and the Millips' services and the Millips'

#### Foglesong TV spots defended

I have been following the recent influx of letters regarding the frequency and con-tent of U.S. Air Forces in Europe spots aired on American Forces Network television and am disheartened at the blatant attacks on our general as well as those featured in the spots with him. These spots are not commercials or advertisements: they are a forum for command informa-

Senior leadership has always had the challenge of ensuring critical information is passed through the complete chain of command. The commander uses the television medium, which is widely available to those in his command, to pass along Air Force vision, along with critical safety information to a large number of people at one time.

An objective review of these spots would indicate that Gen. Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong is never alone in them - he is surrounded by the people he serves. Whether it is troops down range, members of this base, or his wife, he takes this time to highlight members who deserve recog-

One person attacked the Foglesong family holiday spot, but none of the other three holiday spots that ran from various commanders in Europe. Why? These spots are aired to show your command is thinking of and cares about you during the holiday months. The Foglesong family chose to do a humorous and lighthearted spot instead of the normal blah, blah, blah, and they are criticized for it.

He was also ridiculed for his hand gestures. I think it's safe to write that he is not a trained actor - he's a trained general. Foglesong was not appointed to entertain us, he is appointed to lead us.

The simple fact is USAFE spots air at a proportionate rate to all the other commands in the U.S. European Command, according to AFN.

> 2nd Lt. Faith L. Eudy Ramstein Air Base, Germany

#### Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

#### Send your letters to-

II S Mail-Stars and Stripes Unit 29480 APO AF 09211

International mail-Stars and Stripes Postfach 1330 64345 Griesheim

Via fax: [Country code +49] (0) 6155/601395; DSN 349-8395

E-mail: letters@mail.estripes.osd.mil

#### Cycle test? Lead by example

I am addressing "Motorcycle test unnecessary" (Jan. 4).

As the senior enlisted leader of the III Armored Corps with over 63,000 soldiers currently assigned and as the Multi-National Corps Iraq command sergeant major comprised of over 152,000 troops, it concerns me when I read an article from a first sergeant complaining about taking an additional Motorcycle Safety Foundation Course in order to ride his motorcycle.

I am sorry that you must do what is asked of every soldier.

It does not matter the amount of years or experience a person has riding a motorcycle if this is a requirement that is being asked of everyone, no one person or persons should be excluded due to their experience. He speaks of one size does not fit all when it comes to experience, but one law or regulation governs all, regardless of the amount of experience we have. Whatever is asked of our soldiers, we should not feel we are exempt because of the amount of experience we have. We as leaders should be ready to follow the same orders,

regulations, and laws that are established for the safety of us all. If we expect our soldiers who have none or little experience to leave their families, or leaders who have none or little experience to leave their soldiers to take this course, then we who have experience riding a motorcycle should not feel superior to those who do not!

I would like to close with one question: When was the standard changed that states we are to lead by example?

Command Sgt. Maj. William J. Gainey Raghdad

#### Guard. Reserve vital

The writer of "Angry over re-up bonuses" (Jan. 7) seems to be mistaken or misinformed over the active duty's ability to receive re-enlistment bonuses, because they are available to members of the ac tive-duty military as well as the National Guard and Reserve.

The role of the National Guard and Reserve seems to be downplayed by the writ-er's statement that "... the only time reserv-ists do the same job we do is one weekend a month, two weeks out of the year.

soldier Perhaps this active-duty soldier wouldn't mind staying deployed for two or three years instead of the usual one, since she seems to scoff at the importance of the National Guard and Reserve. After all, the National Guard and Reserve make up approximately 40 percent of U.S. forces in Iraq alone, not to mention others deployed throughout the world.

The writer must have a distorted percep tion of reality if she thinks for one moment that she's in a danger zone. I've been to Camp As Sayliyah, Oatar, on rest and recuperation, and it sure didn't seem like much of what the writer calls a "combat zone. The combat stress in Oatar is a long line to

the dining facility or Burger King. The writer's deployment could be slightly longer had the National Guard and reserves not been at the Department of Defense's disposal.

Spc. John A. Griggs Camp Bucca, Iraq

### Keep Arctic wildlife refuge free of oil drilling

Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service

The following editorial appeared in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel on Monday: Proponents of opening up the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling are ex-

pected to make another push in Congress in the coming months. The idea is that, given November's elec-

toral results, this next legislative session offers backers their best chance. But the curious thing is that the folks one would think would have the most to gain by opening up the refuge may be losing some interest.

Recently, ConocoPhillips, the largest oil producer on Alaska's North Slope, pulled out of a lobbying group pushing for open-ing up the refuge. The company essential-

ly said it has other priorities, which in-

clude developing fields in established areas already open to oil companies and getting approval for a natural gas pipeline from Alaska to the lower 48 states.

The second-largest oil producer in Alaska, BP PLC, pulled out of the lobbying group two years ago. And The Wall Street Journal reports that BP has scaled back its exploration for new fields in Alaska, which ranks as one of the most expensive places for oil production, and that ConocoPhillips has enough big projects lined up in other places to boost its production.

So if opening the refuge is not a high priority for these oil companies, why is it for some members of Congress? The amount of oil that can be extracted from the refuge is not going to solve the nation's energy problems. There are better and cheaper places to get oil.

Conservation and improving fuel efficiency would do far more to reduce the na tion's reliance on foreign sources of oil. And while the United States may some day need the oil in the refuge, that time is not now, nor is it 10 years from now, the earliest that an oil flow could be produced even if the refuge were opened today.

Drilling would not destroy the last wild

place in the United States, as some claim. but that drilling would still leave a foot-print — even if only a small one — that would disturb one of nature's gems.

Why do that when it isn't necessary and when even those who would make the footprint don't seem particularly interested in doing so?

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

#### Doonesbury







STARS AND STRIPES WER SITE: WWW.STRIPES.COM

#### OPINION

### Do-nothing nostalgia limits Social Security

t's telling that those who want to keep Social Security just as it is can only offer the same old excuse: "There's no crisis." This rationale for rejecting the use of private invest-

Myriam Marquez



ment accounts as part of Social Security reform comes from people who call themselves "progres-

What their call for inaction really tells us is that they're visionless reactionar-

They can only see making changes to Social Security in reaction to a "crisis." So

they'll wait it out, even though there are huge problems ahead for this entitlement program for retirees

True. Social Security isn't bankrupt just yet. In as little as 13 years, by 2018, when the bulk of my baby boom genera tion finally retires, Social Security re-serves no longer are expected to be building up the system. By 2042 or maybe 2052, Social Security would no longer have the trust-fund assets to cover retiree benefits because the ratio of workers to retirees keeps narrowing.

Of course, those projections are conservative. They undercount the growth in immigrants, as compared to today's reality, ignoring how immigrants can pump up the work force to help pay for retirees benefits. They also play down the potential for strong economic growth overall in the future.

Another valid point: If the government would stop borrowing from the plan's "trust fund" surplus — remember Al Gore's "lock box"? — to cover the cost of a slew of programs and all of those Bush tax cuts, Social Security would be healthy years longer. That argument, though, ignores the bigger issue of what Social Security should be in the 21st century

Bottom line: Americans are being shortchanged. Social Security can be much more than it is today. That's what Demo-crats should be looking at achieving. Instead, they simply want to protect a program out of some kind of misplaced nostalgia for what it meant to be "progressive" in FDR's day

There's no dispute that Social Security fashioned under President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal, is a compact with the elderly and has done more to help retirees keep a decent, though fast-eroding, standard of living than anything else. Cou-pled with Medicare's health insurance enefits, Social Security has helped people over 65 keep their dignity. And those fortunate enough to have worked in companies that offer pensions, or to have earned enough to invest in markets, get extra "wiggle room" to enjoy their golden

years - thanks to Social Security Yet Social Security could stand some major tinkering. It was fashioned during another time for another world. Today's global economy demands a new look at a system that's barely keeping up with inflationary pressures for those who count on it as their only retirement income.

Politically speaking, no administration or Congress in the future would let Social Security go bankrupt. They would be voted out of office. So in a sense, the word "crisis" is a loaded political term that President Bush employs precisely be-cause he knows the political odds are that change will come only in reaction to a crinot because of needed forward-thinking

It's a shame that Bush has opted to use such disingenuous language to move the debate on Social Security forward. Both THE DEMOCRATS' 2-STEP PLAN TO SAVE



MATHANCELSMANSourcego

sides exaggerate for their own purposes The reality is Social Security reforms will require tough decisions about delaying retirement age, cutting back on benefits for those who choose to use a portion of their payroll taxes for investments and sticking tough to the promise that if mar-kets tank, individual investors who opt out of a portion of Social Security won't get bailed out by Big Brother. And the cost of transferring to a private system even if the reform only allows workers to invest a small percentage of their payroll taxes, can't be whitewashed. Whatever money workers take out of the system for investments will have to be made up by government in the short term to ensure that current retirees' benefits continue.

The goal of allowing future generations to use part of their Social Security payroll



taxes for private investment accounts is a worthy pursuit. How that's done is what should matter.

It should be a system that helps the poorest worker make wiser decisions about investments and not just a system that serves the rich and middle class, who are familiar with investing. Otherwise, we would be stealing the hopes of low-income workers to make the rich richer.

That's unacceptable. I'm no Chicken Little on Social Security

reform. Never have been. Nor do I cry wolf, as Bush is doing, on the current system's viability The point is, we can do better for future

generations - if only politicians on both sides have the gumption to dream big but tell it straight.

Myriam Marquez is an editorial-page columnist for The Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel

### Ruling returned some sanity to federal sentencing

n the federal court system, few issues have been more contentious than the sentencing guidelines that Congress passed in the mid-1980s, ostensibly to make sure that criminal defendants received about the same time for the same crime

But federal judges have long com plained that the guidelines robbed them of their discretion in weighing different circumstances that might pertain to similar crimes. And defendants and their attorneys complained of onerous sentences that could not be altered. Now, the U.S. Supreme Court has restored some measure of sanity into the process. While the decision last Wednesday is complex, the overall result is welcome.

The guidelines, which went into effect in 1987, were meant to address wide disparities in sentencing, including among different racial and ethnic groups. They also aimed to make sentences more trans parent and uniform. But as time passed, Congress kept adding layers to the system, allowing sentences to become more excessive and even Draconian.

As a practical matter, power shifted from judges, who are meant to be neutral, to prosecutors, who could virtually determine the outcome of a case by the charges they set. The entire process became more and more convoluted as well, making the sentencing guidelines resemble

And the results were still unfair. That

was ultimately the court's view in the cases decided last week. Freddie J. Booker was convicted by a Madison, Wis., jury of possessing to distribute more than 50 grams of crack cocaine. After considering his criminal history and evidence at a post-trial hearing that he had actually distributed more than 500 grams, the judge increased what would have been a sentence of nearly 22 years, based on the jury's findings, to 30 years. Similarly, Ducan Fanfan was convicted by a jury in Portland, Maine, of distributing 500 grams of cocaine. Based on the jury's findings, his maximum sentence should have been 61/2 years in prison. When the gove

ernment pushed for a longer sentence, based on evidence at a post-trial hearing that he was responsible for distributing even more drugs and that he was an organizer of criminal activity, the judge re-

That the guidelines allowed judges to increase sentences based on evidence that the jury did not consider, and under a standard - preponderance of the evi dence - that was less rigorous than the jury's finding beyond a reasonable doubt, were key reasons why a 5-4 majority of the Supreme Court found the guidelines unconstitutional.

When it came to fixing the problem, an-

other 5-4 majority ruled that the guidelines should now be considered "effective-ly advisory" instead of mandatory.

Although some of the long-term implications of the rulings are still being sorted out, this is a welcome and long-overdue development, suggesting that judges can still defer to the guidelines without being handcuffed by them.

And while the court's decisions bring some much-needed balance to sentence ing, they have provoked angry reactions from some members of Congress. Those members should give the court's decisions time to settle, and view them as restoring proper checks and balances, not promoting disrespect.

#### Mallard Fillmore

By BRUCE TINSLEY



#### YOUR MONEY

# American to offer perks to military

By LISA BURGESS Stars and Strine.

ARLINGTON, Va. - American Airlines is extending special travel offers for military personnel, including reduced fares, pre-boarding courtesies, and the use of the executive lounge.

The Fort Worth, Texas-based airline is extending several of its special fares to domestic and some international destinations until June 5, Tara Phillips, a spokeswoman for the airline, said in a Thursday e-mail outlining the extended benefits.

For servicemembers and their families who are heading to Europe, Latin America and Japan, discounted tickets will be available for travel through May 31.

The airline also is eliminating the minimum stay requirement on its discounted fares for servicemembers. Instead of requiring a Saturday-night stay, American is simply requiring that servicemembers spend a single night at their destination in order to get the lower ticket prices.

The reduced fares are available to active-duty servicemembers, as well as activated National Guard or reservists, who are on leave or furlough (including those who are traveling within seven days of discharge from active service), and their spouse and dependent children

American Airlines executives also have decided to continue a practice, instituted almost a year ago, of inviting uniformed military personnel to pre-board the aircraft, or board at any time — a courtesy usually extended only to first-class passengers and those with special needs



Passengers wait at an American Airlines ticket counter at the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport in Grapevine, Texas, in 2002. Waits for servicemembers traveling on American Airlines will be shorter starting June, when the airline introduces special offers for troops, including pre-boarding.

Finally, American is extending through June 5 its invitation to any uniformed servicemember who is on emergency or R&R leave from Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom to use American's "Admirals Club" facilities at any airport worldwide that does not offer USO facilities. Phillips said

To gain access to an Admirals Club, eligible military personnel in appropriate uniform should present their emergency or R&R leave forms at the facility's entrance.

Discounted tickets are available at American Airlines ticketing locations or by calling American's res-1-800-433-7300 number ervations at 1-800-633-3711 for Spanish. Military ID must be presented at the time of airport check-in. The military fares are not available via the Internet.

Bahrain (Dinar) British pound

Canada (Dollar

Denmark (Krone) Egypt (Pound)....

E-mail Lisa Burgess at: hurgessl@strines.osd.mi

### Regulations, demand dictate housing prices BY HOLDEN LEWIS

hankrate.com (KRT)

Lima. Ohio, has the most affordable housing in the country, while Santa Barbara, Calif., resides at the other end of the spectrum, according to the National Association of Home Builders.

Nine of the 10 most-affordable markets in the organization's Housing Opportunity Index are in Ohio, Michigan and Illinois, All of the 10 least-affordable markets are in California

The organization blames "excessive regulations" for much of the lack of affordability of the problem in California, state's enduring appeal has something to do with it, too.

Santa Barbara is sunny and nestled between mountains and sea. with little room to spread out. Ac-cording to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Develop-ment, the median household income in the county in 2004 was \$64,700. The NAHB says the median price of a home in metro Santa Barbara was \$447,000 in the third quarter of 2004. Prices are rising rapidly. The California Association of Realtors says the median price of a home in the county hit \$668,750 in November.

Affordable Lima could scarcely be more different from Santa Barbara. Its skies are gray most of the winter, and it is surrounded by abundant, flat farmland that is pretty, but unspectacular. HUD says Lima's median family income in 2004 was \$52,500. The median sale price of all homes sold in the third quarter of 2004 \$82,000, according to the NAHB

In other words, a typical home in Santa Barbara costs more than 10 times a typical family's income, while a home in Lima costs about 1.6 times a family's income

The home builders rank 162 metropolitan areas by estimating the percentage of homes sold that would be affordable to a family earning the area's median house hold income.

In Lima, a family earning the

median household income could have afforded 90.5 percent of the homes sold there last summer. In Santa Barbara, less than 5 percent of the homes sold would have been affordable to someone making the median household in-

"Ultimately, higher home prices are a matter of strong buyer de-mand," says Bobby Rayburn, a home builder and president of the NAHB. "But a big contributor has been a shortage of land available for development due to growth controls, and the high cost of regulations in general.

There is some truth to the NAH-B's criticism of regulation, experts say, California has strong environmental protections, and it's hard to get permits to build houses on hillsides that are prone to fires and landslides.

While local governments try to come up with affordable housing policies, lenders are charging ahead with clever mortgage prodnets

Brett Vratil, a Realtor with Zip-Realty who sells mostly in west Los Angeles, says almost all of his customers get interest-only mortgages, often for the total purchase price. Interest-only loans increase buyers' purchasing power by about 25 percent, Vratil says, and that's often what it takes to get someone into a home in Los Angeles.

Fixed-rate mortgages are becoming increasingly rare in California because adjustable-rate mortgages, or ARMs, have lower rates. One of the most popular loans is the 5/1 hybrid ARM, which starts out with a rate that lasts five years, then adjusts annually thereafter. The initial rate on a 5/1 ARM is about three-quarters of a percentage point less than a comparable 30-year fixed.

The difference can spell big savings. A \$500,000 loan at 6 perhas a monthly principal-and-interest payment of \$2,998. A 5/1 ARM at 5.25 percent starts out with monthly prin-cipal and interest of \$2,761. If the loan is interest-only, the monthly payment is about \$2,188.

### Judge blocks Enron info in WorldCom CEO's trial

BY ERIN MCCLAM The Associated Press

NEW YORK - The judge in the trial of ex-WorldCom Inc. chief Bernard Ebbers ruled Tuesday that the defense could quiz the star witness about marital infidelity and blocked testimony about Ebbers' knowledge of hearings into the Enron scandal

The government had sought to produce evidence that Ebbers watched the hearings on the collapse of Enron Corp. and dis-cussed them with Scott Sullivan. his chief financial officer Federal prosecutors had hoped

to use the episode to show that Ebbers knew WorldCom's own ac counting procedures amounted to criminal conduct. Ruling on the eve of Ebbers' trial, U.S. District Judge Barbara Jones said she did not see the relevance

Sullivan had faced his own trial until pleading guilty last year and agreeing to testify against his former boss.

The judge also said she would allow Ebbers' defense lawvers to question Sullivan about marital infidelity because it addresses "Mr. Sullivan's character for truthful-

But in a victory for the govern-ment, the judge refused to grant

immunity to two former World-Com executives who the defense says could provide testimony favorable to Ebbers.

The defense wants to use the two executives to show that Sullivan, not Ebbers, was behind WorldCom's accounting tricks but contends the government is keeping them "in limbo" and reserving the right to prosecute

"We don't have a fair trial if this evidence is not before the jury," Ebbers lawyer Reid Weingarten said, unsuccessfully trying to sway the judge.

The rulings came the day before potential jurors are to fill out questionnaires in the trial of Ebbers, who is charged with orchestrating WorldCom's accounting fraud. Opening statements

could begin some time next week. Ebbers, 63, has pleaded not guilty. The charges against him

carry up to 85 years in prison.
In 2002, WorldCom collapsed under the weight of an \$11 billion accounting fraud and filed for the largest bankruptcy in the history of American business.

Federal prosecutors say Ebbers lied about his company's finances before the collapse, orchestrating a shell game to cover up its problems.

### **EXCHANGE RATES**

Euro	\$1.3106/0.7656
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.799
Hungary (Forint)	188.66
Iceland (Krona)	60.95
Israel (Shekel)	4.3592
Janan (Yen)	102.46
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.7919
Norway (Krone)	5.92
Philippines (Peso)	55.62
Saudi Arabia (Pival)	3.58
Singapore (Dollar)	1.6336
South Korea (Mon)	1035.70
Switzerland (Franc)	1 12
Thailand (Raht)	38.40
Turkey (New Lira)	1.4045
(Military eychange r	toc are those
available to customers	t military hank.
ing facilities in the cour	try of issuance
for Japan South Korea	Germany the
Netherlands and the II	nited Kingdom
For nonlocal ourrency	avehance rates
(i.e. nurchasing British n	nunds in Gorma.
ny) check with your loca	I military hank.
ing facility, Commercial	rates are inter-
hank rates provided for	reference when
bank rates provided for	reference when
bank rates provided for buying currency. All figu	reference when ires are foreign
bank rates provided for buying currency. All figi currencies to one dollar	reference when ires are foreign except for the
bank rates provided for buying currency. All figu	reference when ires are foreign , except for the represented in
	Euro. Keng (Dollar) Hoggary (Foritt) Iceland (Krona) Israel (Sheke) Japan (Yen) Japan (Jen) Japan Japan (Jen) Japan Japa

#### PRECIOUS METALS

\$422.85

#### **INTEREST RATES**

count rate ...... leral funds market rate 30-year bond .......4.69 Sources: The Associated Press, Bank of America

### ents and Sensibility Money tip of the day How much to tip

### little extra if your kids have

NEW YORK - Most people know that a standard restaurant gratuity is 15 percent to 20 percent, but how much to tip in other situations can be tricky.

Jodi R. R. Smith, president and founder of a Boston-based etiquette consulting firm, offers this advice:

Bartender: If you're sitting at the bar, \$1 per drink is enough. Baby-sitter: Give him or her a been especially difficult.

Movers: How much you tip depends on the scope and difficul-ty of your move. You should tip

about \$10 to \$50 per mover.

Hairstylist/colorist: 15 per cent of the cost for services Taxi driver: For expedient ser-

vice — with no unnecessary de-tours — give 10 to 15 percent.

Doorman: Give \$1 or \$2 if he or she flags down a cab for you. Don't tip for simply holding open a door for you.



### **EUROPEAN FORECAST**

Benelux: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the mid-40s. Thursday lows in the upper 30s. Britain, Ireland: Cloudy with rain-showers and gusty winds. Highs in the upper 40s to lower 50s. Thursday lows in the mid-40s.

Croatia and Bosnia: Mostly cloudy to cloudy with snow. Highs in the mid to upper 30s. Thursday lows in the mid-France: Northern France will be most-

ly cloudy with rainshowers, and Southern France will be partly cloudy. Highs in the mid-40s to mid-50s. Thursday lows in the upper 30s. Northern Germany: Cloudy with snow, becoming partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 40s. Thursday lows in the mid-30s.

Southern Germany: Mostly cloudy to cloudy with rain and snow. Highs in the upper 30s to lower 40s. Thursday lows in the upper 20s.

Hungary: Cloudy with snowshowers. Highs in the upper 30s. Thursday lows in the upper 20s.

Northern Italy: Partly to mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower to mid-40s. Thursday lows in the upper 20s and ver 30s

Southern Italy: Cloudy with rain. Highs in the lower to mid-50s. Thursday lows in the mid to upper 30s.

Kosovo: Mostly cloudy with rain and snow. Highs in the upper 30s. Thursday lows in the lower 30s.

Norway: Cloudy with rain and snow showers. Highs in mid to upper 30s. Thursday lows in mid-20s to mid-30s. Portugal, Spain: Sunny to partly

cloudy. Highs in the mid-50s to lower 60s. Thursday lows in the upper 40s to lower 50s, and lower 30s inland. to lower 50s, and lower 30s miland.

Turkey: Northern Turkey will be cloudy
with rainshowers, highs in the lower
50s and Thrusday lows in the lower
30s. Southern Turkey will be mostly
cloudy with rainshowers and isolated
thunderstorms, highs in the mid-50s
to lower 60s and Thrusday lows in
the mid-30s to lower 40s.

For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAFE Operational Weather Squadron home page at:

### https://ows.sembach.af.mil http://ows.public.sembach.af.mil

### SUN & MOON

00		• •	
Sunrise (B Sunrise (Fi Sunset (Ba Sunset (Fr	rankfurt) adhdad)	Today 7:06AM 8:16AM 5:23PM 4:59PM	7:05AN 8:15AN 5:24PN 5:01PN
			0
Full moon 25 Jan 05	Last qtr. 2 Feb 05	New moon 8 Feb 05	First qtr. 16 Feb 0

### TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

61/44

62/47

AFRICA

IODAI	J	J	וחו	LOIDE O	<b>U</b> 1	ь	$\mathcal{I}$	
Ablane, Tex. Worn, Chip Wann, Michael Wann, Michael Wann, Michael Wann, Michael Wannani, Pa. Wan		Lo 40 21 15 33 20 33 31 27 35 26 44 22 44 37 37 15 31 23 23 25 56 56 56 56 56 56 56 56 56 56 56 56 56	Ottik Cidy Snow Snow PCidy PCidy PCidy PCidy PCidy Snow Ciry Snow PCidy Ciry PCidy Ciry Cidy Snow Snow Snow Snow Snow Snow Cidy Snow Cidy Snow Cidy Snow Cidy Snow Cidy Cidy Cidy Cidy Cidy Cidy Snow Cidy Cidy Cidy Cidy Cidy Cidy Cidy Cidy	Clorebrd Springs Columbia Sci. Columbia Sci. Columbia Sci. Columbia Sci. Columbia Sci. Columbia Gla. Columbia China Corpus Christi Dalais-Fi Worth Daylon Beach Denter Des Molines Derbrd Diskir Sci. Columbia Sci.	30 60 46 52 32 22 68 63 32 62 66 57 31 14 65 32 29 64 1 30 16 57 29 54	22 33 29 35 24 11 53 41 23 41 35 22 20 2 37 23 20 45 29 36 16	Snow PCidy PCidy PCidy Snow Snow Rain PCidy Snow	Harrist Harris Halris Halris Honol House Honol House Honol House Janks Janks Janks Janks Kansa Key W Knaw Lake C Larsir Lise W Loving Lincol Little F Los A Louish Luisho Macon Madel
Casper	53	32	PCktv	Fort Wayne	31	21	Clay	Medio
Charleston.S.C.	50	34	Cir	Fresno	47	43	Clay	Memp
Sharikasidi (O.C.	20	34	_ 🗀	Theat is			City	mari-p

risburg	~	23 Snow	Nashville	47	35
rtford Spgfid	21	14 Snow	New Orleans	60	45
lena	45		New York City	28	25
nolulu	81		Newprk	27	23
uston	62	49 Cldv	Norfolk, Va.	35	27
ntsville	48		North Platte	53	
ianapols	32		Oklahoma City	58	37
kson Miss.	55	40 POdy	Omaha	34	21
ksonville	57	33 Cir	Orlando	63	41
neau reas City	36	32 Rain	Paducah	45	30
nsas City	45	25 PCldy	Pendleton	59	41
West	68	56 PCldy	Peoria	35	
oxville	42	31 PCldy	Philadelphia	30	25
ie Charles	61		Phoenix	78	52
rsing	30	17 Cldy	Pittsburgh	31	22
Vegas	69	46 Cir	Pocatello	32	19
ington	40		Portland, Maine	23	17
coln	35	22 POldy	Portland,Ore.	59	
e Rock	55	36 Cldy	Providence	26	21
Angeles	83		Pueblo	65	28
isville	44	29 Cldy	Raleigh-Durham	38	28 31
book	64	33 PCkly	Rapid City	55	31
con	50	33 POldý	Reno	38	
dison	30	21 POldy	Richmond	34	26
dford	53		Roanoke	38	27
mphis	50	40 POldy	Rochester	27	16
mi Beach fland-Odessa	70	50 POldy	Rockford	32	22
iano Coessa	65		Sacramento	50	
waukee	31	22 POldy	St Louis	40	
ls-St Paul ble	26 60	15 Cldy 41 Clr	St Thomas Salem.Ore.	83 60	71 46
ntoomery	54	36 PCldv	Salt Lake City	42	30

Tehran 47/31

ait City

67/44

San Angelo	69	39	Cldv
San Antonio	64	48	Cldy
San Diego	79	52	Cír
San Francisco	63	48	Cir
San Jose	68	48	Cir
San Juan,PR.	83	71	Bain
Santa Fe	57	27 F	2Cldv
St Ste Marie	24	0 :	Snow
Savannah	51	33	Cir
Seattle	57	51	Rain
Shreveport	62	45	Cldv
Sloux City	36	22 F	≥Cldý
Sioux Falls	34	19 F	Clay
South Bend	30	20	Cldy
Spokane	46	38	Cldy
Springfield,III.	36		
Springfield,Mo.	51	33	Cldy
Syracuse	24	16 :	Snow
Tallahassee	56	34	Cir
Tampa-St Ptrsbg	63	45	Cir
Toledo	31	20 :	Snow
Topeka	47	26 F	Cldy
	79	45	Cir
Tulsa		40 F	Cldy
Tupelo	50	36 F	°Cldv
Wago	64	41 F 24	≥Cldý
Washington,D.C.	32	24 :	Snow

Mazar-e-Sharif 47/34

> 42/22 62/35

62/39

60/36

Snov PCIdi PCIdi CIdi CIdi PCIdi Snov PCId PCId PCId Rair CId

Cldy	
Cir Cir	
Cir	
Bain	
PCldy	50s~
Snow	60s
Cir	-17
Rain	Х
Cldy	1
PCldy PCldy	- L
PUBy	
Clay Clay PClay	
PCIty	
	70:
Snow	
Cir	
Cir Snow	-0
PCldy	0s
Cir	US.
PCldv	10s-
PCHV	26
PCldy Snow	_
Snow	0.20
PCldy	6 20

# THE UNITED STATES TODAY

MIDEAST

w Dolhi

87/59!!





### RIVE SAFE THIS WINTER!

Clean your car windows and lights! Leave Sooner, Drive Slower, Live Longer! US ARMY EUROPE IMA EUROPE REGION

Be prepared for fog, ice, and snow! Be prepared to slow down and always carry tire chains! WE CARE ABOUT YOUR SAFETY!



PAGE 18 · STARS AND S

#### Home for tiger cubs

NC CHARLOTTE — Two young tiger cubs found wandering along a highway were given a home at the North Carolina Zoo recently as zoo officials warned that private ownership of exotic animals poses an increasing danger.

"This is just the latest example of a huge ongoing problem that the state Legislature needs to address," said zoo director David Jones. "These animals being

needs to address," said zoo director David Jones. "These animals being kept in private hands pose a real threat to public safety and are detrimental to the welfare of the animals themselves."

The zoo pushed for several years for state laws to restrict private ownership of exotics, he said. Within the past 18 months, two North Carolina children have been mauled by tigers, including a young Wilkes County boy who was killed.

#### Charged for lawyer jokes

HEMPSTEAD — Did you hear the one about the two guys arrested for telling lawyer jokes? But seriously folks, it happened to the founders of a group called "Americans for Legal Reform," who were waiting in line to get into the First District Courthouse.

"How do you tell when a lawyer is lying?" Harvey Kash reportedly asked Carl Lanzisera.

"His lips are moving," they said in unison.

While some waiting to get into the courthouse giggled, an attorney further up the queue was not laughing. He told them to pipe down, and when they didn't, the attorney reported the pair to court personnel, who charged them with disorderly conduct, a misdemeanor.

"They just can't take it," Kash said of lawyers in general. "They're so used to control. We were outside on the street. This violates our First Amendment rights."

Dan Bagnuola, a spokesman for the Nassau County courts, said the men were "being abusive and they were causing a disturbance."

#### Site for museum

WICHITA — City officials have secured a riverfront site for a Kansas African-American museum, which could end up named for famed photographer Gordon Parks, a native of Fort Scott.

Parks, who now lives in New York, supports plans for the \$19.5 million museum and has donated 29 photographs, valued at \$1 million, to the project.

#### Cargo stowaways nabbed

CA LOS ANGELES — The day after 32 Chinese nationals were found in shipping containers at the Port of Los Angeles, federal and local authorities said they were trying to unravel what appeared to be a human smuggling overation.

"Our intention at the moment is to develop a smuggling case," said Immigrant and Customs Enforcement spokeswoman Virginia Kice.

The 28 men and four male teenagers, apparently trying to sneak into the United States, were found inside two containers after a crane operator spotted several stowaways emerging from a hole in one



### AMERICAN ROUNDUP

of the containers. The containers had been loaded onto the vessel during a stop in Shekou, China, port officials said.

Investigators said the stench coming from the containers was "overwhelming." Inside they found discarded food packages, blankets, and containers overflowing with human waste. The stoways traveled with food and water, and authorities said all were in good condition. They had also set up small battery-powered fans in the container.

#### Suspect has record

MINNEAPOLIS — A man suspected in 23 bank robberies in the Twin Cities during the last year and a half was well-known to authorities as a public nuisance with a temper and a history of criminal activity, according to police records.

John Whitrock, 56, is suspected of being a notorious bank robber known as the Fishing Hat Bandit, after the floppy hats he sometimes wore. He was arrested Jan. 7 and charged with robbing a credit union in Edina.

Neighbors have described him as a nice man, but Whitrock has been convicted twice of driving while intoxicated, stopplit from a supermarket and cited for public displays in women's underwear and a blond wig, according to reports published by the Minneapolis Star-Tribune and the St. Paul Pio-



Fierce protector

A dog keeps an eye out for any intruders in the back yard of a home in Las Cruces, N.M. neer Press.

He also once
threatened his girlfriend's ex-boyfriend
with a gun as the man
stood at a urinal, according to Eagan police

records.
"He's a dirtbag," said
Bruce Wicklund, the man
Whitrock pointed the gun at in
1992. "That nice guy act he
puts on? You don't know how
far from the truth that is."

Whitrock has been charged only with the one robbery, but police said he has admitted to 19 other heists. Born in Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., Whitrock completed a year of college and served two years in the Army. In the late 1980s, he was a button-down, tie-wearing financial analyst.

#### Governor's popularity

HARTFORD — Gov. M. Jodi Rell's popularity is at 83 percent, the highest ever recorded for a state official in the Quinnipiac University poll.

Nearly half of those polled said Rell's decision to deliver her State of the State address nine days after breast cancer surgery made them think more favorably of her.

#### Hog keeps growing

ND HARLOW — Jean and Bernard Meyer have a celebrity on their Benson County farm. He doesn't have a name, but he's a heavyweight.

The Meyers' 7-foot, 8-inch hog weighs 1,300 pounds.

Bernard Meyer, who has raised hogs for more than 50 years, said the 2-year-old Yorkshire-Hampshire-Duroc cross weighed 200 pounds when purchased in Minnesota nearly two years ago.

"He usually gets corn in his rations," Meyer said. "He doesn't get a lot of feed. He just happened to be a fast grower. I tell my friends he just grew up."

"I thought that if I can get him to 1,500 pounds, I can take him to the State Fair," Meyer said. "We weighed him last summer and he was 1,200 pounds. By fall, he weighed 1,300 pounds."

#### Donation's nudity clause

WA SEATTLE — An art lover left his hometown about \$1 million to buy a new fountain, but with a stipulation.

The late Stu Smailes made clear the work must include the figure of at least one life-size naked man.

Smailes, a retired computer analyst, died in 2002 at the age of 69. He was an only child, with no immediate family. His attorney, Tim Bradbury, said Smailes was a great fan of the arts.

"He was a very funny man," Bradbury said, with a "very strong sense of humor."

According to court documents, the fountain bequest is to include "one or more unclothed, life-size male figure(s) designed in the classical style, i.e. realistic," said Karen Bystrom at the City's Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs.

Bystrom said somebody in her office has suggested the naked-man fountain be part of the Seattle Art Museum's new Olympic Sculpture Park, now a work in progress at the north end of the downtown waterfront.

The agreement is still being negotiated.



Time travel Rockport (Maine) Marine employees work on the latest replica of the Godspeed, one of three ships that carried settlers nearly 400 years ago to land in Virginia, the site of the first permanent English settlement in the New World. The work is expected to be completed by March 2006, well in time for the following year's 4001 anniversary of the settlement.



Grabbing something to eat Abald eagle carries a fish caught in the Mississippi River in Keokuk, Iowa, which was holding its annual Eagle Appreciation Days to celebrate the year's largest gathering of the birds.



Blazing hot Company in Oklahoma City.

A large cloud of fire rises above firefighters working a five-alarm fire at the B&M Oil



Morning view

The small town of Hilo, Hawaii, wakes to blue skies, sunshine and snow high up on Mauna Kea mountain.



Tattoo you Efrain Rosario, right, applies a temporary tattoo on Laverne Hollins during Art Deco Weekend in the South Beach section of Miami Beach, Fla. Art Deco Weekend started with three vendors at the Cardozo Hotel more than a quarter-century ago.



Runneth over

The Santa Felicia Dam overflows in Piru, Calif. Recent storms brought heavy rain and snow to several western states.



Thinking of others Barbara, Calif.

People gather in the shape of a heart to commemorate La Conchita, Calif., mudslide and Asian tsunami victims at Santa Barbara City College in Santa

#### Coin sells for about \$3M

FL FORT LAUDERDALE —
The legendary Brasher Doubloon, the first gold coin made in the United States, sold for nearly \$3 million at a public auction.

President of Rare Coin Wholesalers Steven Contursi and Dr. Donald Kagin of California jointly purchased the gold piece.

The coin was hand-struck in 1787 by George Washington's New York City neighbor, gold and silversmith Ephraim Brasher. Only 10 examples survive.

#### Referee attacker freed

PA PITTSBURGH — Hampton, Pa., parent Peter Dukovich will not serve jail time for his attack on a high-school basketball referee.

Common Pleas Judge John Zottola convicted Dukovich of simple assault but acquitted him of three other charges, including assault on a sports official.

Zottola said Dukovich, 48, had lived an exemplary life until his confrontation with Ron Bell during a Feb. 6 game. Nothing would be gained by sending Dukovich to jail for an incident that was out of character with his history as a good parent and citizen, Zottola said.

#### Fake ad fools some

MN MINNEAPOLIS — A fake radio announcement purporting to notify Minnesotans about a state "light-out" law has dozens of perplexed people calling the state Department of Natural Resources.

KDWB Radio listeners have been directed to visit a Web site to file for a light extension or rat out a neighbor.

The supposed DNR site (www.lightsoutminnesota.org) looks official enough with photos of the Capitol, loons and a lady's slipper as well as a message from the director and his smirking photo. Fines, he warns, will be assessed on a per-bulb basis.

"It's a bit of an April Fool's joke in January," explained Rob Morris, KDWB's program director. Radio folks call it a buzz bit — it gets someone's attention.

#### Adult seat belt use up

AL MONTGOMERY — Seat belt use in Alabama last year was at a record high of 80 percent, but fewer people were buckling un children in car seats.

That rate dropped from 87 percent in 2003 to 83 percent in 2004. State health officials announced the results after a study observed use of the restraints in 15 selected counties.

#### College gal can chow

PA CLEARFIELD — Kate
Stelnick may weigh only
100 pounds, but her appetite is remarkable.

The college student from Princeton, N.J., is the first to meet a restaurant's challenge by downing its six-pound hamburger — and five pounds of fixins' — within three hours.

Stelnick, 19, didn't eat for two days to prepare for the challenge. "I felt very full, but I was too excited that I actually ate it to notice," Stelnick said. She made the five-hour drive to Denny's Beer Barrel Pub after seeing pictures of

the monster burger, dubbed the Ye Old 96er.

Nobody had finished the big burger in the three-hour time limit since it was introduced on Super Bowl Sunday 1998. In addition to large onion, two whole tomatoes, on half head offettuce, 1½ pounds of cheese, two buns, and a cup each of mayonnaise, ketchup, mustard, relish, banana peppers and some pickles.

Stelnick did it all in two hours, 54 minutes.

Bar owner Denny Leigey Jr. said he was pretty sure somebody would meet his burger challenge, though he didn't have a petite woman in mind.

#### Suspect found in TV

GA BAINBRIDGE—A man allegedly on the run from Florida authorities since September was found curled up inside a TV.

After receiving a tip that Affred Blane, 45, of Ponce de Leon, Fla., might be in Decatur County, police went to a mobile home near Bainbridge College, where a woman told police he was hiding under a mattress inside.

With the denartment's police

With the department's police dog, officers went inside. They searched the house thoroughly, even checking a freezer and washing machine, said Lt. Tim Watkins of the Thomas County Sheriff's Denartment.

Meanwhile, the dog kept poking around a TV, an older floor model, Watkins said. When officers unscrewed the back of the television, they found a balled-up Blane inside, Watkins said, adding that Blane is between 5-foot-10 and 6-feet tall.

Blane escaped in handcuffs from two sheriff's deputies in September as they tried to place him in the back of a police car, said Capt. Stan Sunday of the Walton County Sheriff's Office in Florida. He faces many charges, including burglary, possession of methamphetamine, battery on a law enforcement officer and escape.

#### **Body found off shore**

HILO — A 54-year-old woman was found dead in a submerged car at the Pohoiki Boat Ramp at Isaac Hale Beach Park in Puna on the Big Island.

Police said they identified the woman but were withholding her name until next of kin were notified. No foul play is believed to be involved in the woman's death, Detective Juergen Canda said.

Hawaii County Fire Department officials say a snorkeler found the car 50 feet from the shoreline in 10 feet of water. The doors were locked, the windows were rolled up and the car was filled with water, the officials said.

#### Library legislation

RICHMOND — Two Virginia lawmakers are pushing bills that would require any public library that receives state funds to install filtering software on its computers.

The legislation is necessary to protect children from unwittingly stumbling across pornography while using the Internet at their local libraries, said the House bill's sponsor, Del. Samuel Nixon, Jr., R-Chesterfield

Stories and photos from wire services

	AFRTS Television Schedule Updated sports listings are svalidate on the first Scredoudr page in the sports section or AFNs Web site at http://mydn.dodmedia.cod.mit/							
Updated sports issuings are available on the linst societiouse page in the sports section or new's weed site at http://mysin.documedis.osci.miv WENDEDLY MILITER 19 2006								
9:00	(AFN-FAMILY) Stanley	(AFN-MOVIE)	(AFN-EUROPE)	(AFN-KOREA)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-SPORTS) NBA Basketball Teams to Be	(SPECTRUM) 30-Minute Meals	(AFN-PACIFIC) Jeopardy!
9:00	Sagwa-Siamese Cat	(1997) Roma Downey, Hector	Dr. Pilli	Headline News	Headline News	Announced. (Taped)	Food 911	Headline News
10:00	Arthur (EI)	Elizondo. A single mother agrees	(9:46) Oprah Winfrey	ESPNews	Hardball With Chris Matthews		Sensible Chic	ESPNews
10:30	Reading Rainbow (EI)	to pose as her employer's wife.	(:35) Guiding Light	Advisory Block	1		Fashion File	Pacific Report
11:00	Sagwa-Siamese Cat	(10:48) Movie * * "The Ami-		The Parkers	The O'Reilly Factor		E! News Live	The Parkers
11:30	Stanley	tyville Horror" (1979, Horror) James Brolin, Margot Kidder,	(:17) General Hospital	Arrested Development		SportsCenter	The King of Queens	Arrested Development
12:00	Dora the Explorer (EI)	Rod Steiger.	Headline News	The Casino	FOX News		That '70s Show	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition "Cox Family"
12:30	The Wiggles "Nutrition"  Bob the Builder	Movie * * "One Fine Day"	Judge Judy Today Donald Trump; portable	The District "Free Byrd"	Fox and Friends	NBA Basketball Teams to Be Announced, (Taped)	Girlfriends Charmed "Reckless Ahandon"	Lost
13:00	Dragon Tales "Zak Takes a	(1996) Michelle Pfeiffer Two	heaters.	The bisdict Tree byla	r ox and r riends		Citatilled Tieckless Aballoon	Lust
14:00	Dive/Under the Weather" Zak	overstressed single parents tip- toe around romance.		Pacific Report	Fox and Friends		Ally McBeal "Playing With	Pacific Report
14:30	and Wheezie learn to swim. (El)			The Tonight Show With Jay	1		Matches"	The Tonight Show With Jay
15:00	Funniest Home Videos	(:04) Movie *** "Forget Paris" (1995) Billy Crystal. A	Sylvester & Tweety	Leno	American Morning	SportsCenter	Any Day Now "It's Who You	Leno
15:30	Full House Pokémon	man tells his fiancee about his	Buzz Lightyear of Star The Fairly OddParents	Late Show With David Letter-	CNN Live Today	NFL Live	Sleep With* Third Watch "Alone in a	Late Show With David Letter- man
16:00	Yu-Gi-Oh! (Part 1 of 2)	friends' stormy marriage.	My Life as a Teenage Robot	Access Hollywood	CNN Live loday	World Sport	Inira watch 'Alone in a Crowd'	Access Hollywood
17:00	Doug "Doug's Hot Dog" (EI)	Inside the Actors Studio "Mar-	Jeopardy!	Headline News	ł	Sports Center	Law & Order "Patsy"	Headline News
17:30	The Wild Thornberrys	tin Sheen" Martin Sheen.	Headline News	The Late Late Show	i			The Late Late Show
18:00	The Fairly OddParents	Coming Attractions	ESPNews		FOX News	Beyond the Glory NFL running	The Simpsons "Faith Off"	
18:30	Rugrats	Entertainment Tonight	AFN Evening News	Dennis Miller		back Priest Holmes.		Dennis Miller
19:00	Even Stevens	Movie ** * "Changing Lanes" (2002, Drama) Ben Af-	The Parkers	Countries With Kells Co.	DaySide With Linda Vester	ESPNews	American Idol Performers au- dition in front of judges.	Countries With Kells Co.
19:30	Kenan & Kel Gilmore Girls "Run Away, Little	fleck. A car accident puts two	Arrested Development Extreme Makeover: Home	Countdown With Keith Olber- mann	FOX News	NBA Inside Stuff Tennis Australian Open Early	American Idol	Countdown With Keith Olber- mann
20:00	Boy"	men on a collision course.	Edition "Cox Family"	Entertainment Studios.com	- on memo	Round Day 3. From Mel-	Annanian Iuu	Entertainment Studios.com
21:00	Degrassi: Next	(8:54) Movie * * * "High Fi-	Lost	The Hot List	Studio B With Shepard Smith	bourne, Australia. (Same-day Tape)	Ultimate Tree House	The Hot List
21:30	Degrassi: Next	delity" (2000) John Cusack. A		Headline News	1	iahe)		Headline News
22:00	The Cosby Show	record-store owner recalls past relationships that failed.	Headline News	Good Morning America			Friends	Good Morning America
22:30	Home Improvement	D	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno		Your World With Neil Cavuto Lester Holt Live	A 1 16 - 10	Seinfeld "The Pilot, Part I"	
23:00	Touched by an Angel "The Peacemaker"	Movie *** "Bat 21" (1988, Drama) Gene Hackman.	Late Show-Letterman		Lester Holt Live	Around the Horn Pardon the Interruption	Daily Show-Jon Stewart Blind Date	
23:30	1		Late Show-Letterman	THURSDAY, JANUARY 2	0 2005	rardon the interruption	Dilliu bate	
00:00	Aaahh! Real Monsters	(11:00) Movie * * * "Bat 21"	Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan	Play With Me Sesame
00:30	Rocket Power	(1988) Gene Hackman.	Access Hollywood	Bear in the Big Blue House	NBC Nightly News		O'Brien	Bear in the Big Blue House
1:00	SpongeBob SquarePants	(12:55) Movie * * "An Inno-	4 Qtrs	Boohbah (EI)	ABC World News Tonight		American Idol Performers au-	Boohbah (EI)
1:30	Rugrats	cent Man" (1989, Drama) Tom Selleck, F. Murray Abraham,		Wheel of Fortune	CBS Evening News	1st & 10	dition in front of judges.	Wheel of Fortune
2:00	Even Stevens Kenan & Kel	Laila Robins.	College Basketball Charlotte at Cincinnati. (Taped)	Dr. Phil	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	NFL Live College Basketball Duke at	American Idol	Dr. Phil
2:30 3:00	Gilmore Girls "Run Away, Little	Movie ** * "Changing	ai Onominai (rapca)	Oprah Winfrey	Hannity & Colmes	Miami, (Live)	Ultimate Tree House	Oprah Winfrey
3:30	Boy"	Lanes" (2002, Drama) Ben Af-		opian minicy	Indianaty & Connect		olamac nec nouse	opian minicy
4:00	Degrassi: Next	fleck. A car accident puts two men on a collision course	ESPNews	NBC Nightly News	Headline News		Friends	NBC Nightly News
4:30	Degrassi: Next		ESPNews	Judge Judy	Nightly Business Report	NBA Basketball Minnesota Timberwolves at Los Angeles	Seinfeld "The Pilot, Part I"	Judge Judy
5:00	Sesame Street (EI)	(4:54) Movie ** * "High Fi- delity" (2000) John Cusack. A	Headline News ESPNews	Access Hollywood (:25) Guiding Light	Lou Dobbs Tonight	Lakers From Stanles Center in	Breathingspace Yoga Caribbean Workout	Access Hollywood (:25) Guiding Light
5:30 6:00	Barney & Friends (EI)	record-store owner recalls past	Headline News	(:13) General Hospital	Larry King Live	Los Angeles. (Live)	Body Shaping	(:13) General Hospital
6:30	Blue's Clues	relationships that failed.	Headline News	(110) deneral ricopital	Larry King Line		TIPical Mary Ellen	(110) General Hospital
7:00	Dragon Tales (EI)	Inside the Actors Studio "Mar-	Play With Me Sesame	Larry King Live	NewsNight With Aaron Brown	SportsCenter	The View	Legend of Tarzan
7:30	Bob the Builder	tin Sheen" Martin Sheen.	Bear in the Big Blue House					Aaahh! Real Monsters
8:00	The Wiggles "Body"	Coming Attractions	Boohbah (EI)	Rocko's Modern Life	BET Nightly News	Inside the NFL	Emeril Live	Sabrina, the Animated Series
8:30	Dora the Explorer Stanley "X-Ray X-tra"	Entertainment Tonight Movie "A Family of Cops"	Wheel of Fortune Dr. Phil	Nick News Special Edition Jeopardy!	Tavis Smiley Nightline	College Basketball Charlotte	30-Minute Meals	Nick News Special Edition Jeopardy!
9:00	Sagwa-Siamese Cat	(1995, Drama) Charles Bron- son, Daniel Baldwin.	Dr. Pilli	Headline News	Navy/Marine Corps News	at Cincinnati. (Taped)	Low Carb & Lovin It	Headline News
10:00	Arthur (EI)	son, Daniel Baldwin.	(9:46) Oprah Winfrey	ESPNews	Hardball With Chris Matthews		Design on a Dime	ESPNews
10:30	Reading Rainbow (EI)	(:45) Movie * * * "The Play-	(:35) Guiding Light	Advisory Block	1		Style Star	Pacific Report
11:00	Sagwa-Siamese Cat	er" (1992, Comedy-Drama) Tim Robbins, Greta Scacchi. Robert		Two and a Half Men	The O'Reilly Factor	SportsCenter	E! News Live	Two and a Half Men
11:30	Stanley Dora the Explorer	Altman's scathing look at the	(:17) General Hospital Headline News	Will & Grace Alias "Parity"	60 Minutes	Tennis Australian Open Early	The King of Queens That '70s Show	Will & Grace Desperate Housewives "Preth
12:00 12:30	The Wiggles "Directions"	Hollywood system.	Judge Judy	Allas rarty	ou minutes	Round Day 4. From Mel-	That 70s Show Girlfriends	Desperate Housewives "Pretty Little Picture"
13:00	Bob the Builder	Movie ** "Rocket Gibraltar"	Today Robo Maids.	CSI: Crime Scene Investiga-	Fox and Friends	bourne, Australia. (Same-day	Charmed "Awakened"	CSI: Crime Scene Investiga-
13:30	Dragon Tales (EI)	(1988) Burt Lancaster, Suzy	,	tion "Dead Ringer"		Tape)		tion "Dead Ringer"
14:00	Blue's Clues (EI)	Amis. A writer receives family visitors on his 77th birthday.		Pacific Report	Fox and Friends		Ally McBeal "Blowin' in the Wind"	Pacific Report
14:30	Barney & Friends (EI)			The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	l			The Tonight Show With Jay
15:00 15:30	Funniest Home Videos Full House "Long Goodbye"	(2:54) Movie *** "Back to the Future" (1985, Fantasy)	Legend of Tarzan Aaahh! Real Monsters	Leno Late Show With David Letter-	American Morning	SportsCenter	Any Day Now "Salamanders"	Leno Late Show With David Letter-
15:30	Pokémon "Riddle Me This"	Michael J. Fox, Christopher	Sabrina, the Animated Series	man	CNN Live Today	apor to Certifer	Third Watch "Journey to the	man
16:30	Yu-Gi-Oh! (Part 2 of 2)	Lloyd, Crispin Glover.	Nick News Special Edition	Access Hollywood		NFL Live	Himalayas"	Access Hollywood
17:00	Doug (EI)	Showbiz Moms & Dads	Jeopardy!	Headline News	1	SportsCenter	Law & Order "Blood"	Headline News
		1	Headline News	The Late Late Show				The Late Late Show
17:30	The Wild Thornberrys							
18:00	The Fairly OddParents	Ebert-Movies	Destinations	Dennie Miller	FOX News	NBA Basketball Teams to Be Appounced (Taped)	The Simpsons	Danaia Hillar
18:00 18:30	The Fairly OddParents Rugrats	Entertainment Tonight	AFN Evening News	Dennis Miller		NBA Basketball Teams to Be Announced. (Taped)	Everybody Loves Raymond	Dennis Miller
18:00 18:30 19:00	The Fairly OddParents Rugrats That's So Raven	Entertainment Tonight  Movie *** "Finding For- rester" (2000) Sean Connery.			FOX News 60 Minutes			
18:00 18:30 19:00 19:30	The Fairly OddParents Rugrats	Entertainment Tonight  Movie ** * "Finding For- rester" (2000) Sean Connery. A reclusive writer nurtures a	AFN Evening News Two and a Half Men Will & Grace Desperate Housewives "Pretty	Dennis Miller  Countdown With Keith Olbermann			Everybody Loves Raymond American Idol The Practice "The Making of a	Dennis Miller  Countdown With Keith Olbermann
18:00 18:30 19:00 19:30 20:00 20:30	The Fairly OddParents Rugrats That's So Raven All That 7th Heaven "Dick"	Entertainment Tonight  Movie *** "Finding For- rester" (2000) Sean Connery. A reclusive writer nurtures a Bronx youth's gift for words.	AFN Evening News Two and a Half Men Will & Grace Desperate Housewives "Pretty Little Picture"	Countdown With Keith Olber- mann Entertainment Studios.com	60 Minutes FOX News	Announced. (Taped)  ESPNews	Everybody Loves Raymond American Idol The Practice "The Making of a Trial Attorney"	Countdown With Keith Olber- mann Entertainment Studios.com
18:00 18:30 19:00 19:30 20:00 20:30 21:00	The Fairly OddParents Rugrats That's So Raven All That 7th Heaven "Dick" Sabrina, the Teenage Witch	Entertainment Tonight  Movie *** "Finding For- rester" (2000) Sean Connery. A reclusive writer nurtures a Bronx youth's gift for words.  (:15) Movie *** "Wild	AFN Evening News Two and a Half Men Will & Grace Desperate Housewives "Pretty Little Picture" CSI: Crime Scene Investiga-	Countdown With Keith Olber- mann Entertainment Studios.com The Hot List	60 Minutes	Announced. (Taped)  ESPNews  PGA Golf Buick Invitational	Everybody Loves Raymond American Idol The Practice "The Making of a	Countdown With Keith Olber- mann Entertainment Studios.com The Hot List
18:00 18:30 19:00 19:30 20:00 20:30 21:00 21:30	The Fairly OddParents Rugrats That's So Raven All That 7th Heaven "Dick" Sabrina, the Teenage Witch Sabrina, the Teenage Witch	Entertainment Tonight Movie *** "Finding For- rester" (2000) Sean Connery. A reclusive writer nurtures a Bronx youth's gift for words.  (:15) Movie **x"Wild Things" (1988) Kevin Bacon. Two high-school vixens con-	AFN Evening News Two and a Half Men Will & Grace Desperate Housewives "Pretty Little Picture" CSI: Crime Scene Investiga- tion "Dead Ringer"	Countdown With Keith Olber- mann Entertainment Studios.com The Hot List Headline News	60 Minutes  FOX News  Studio B With Shepard Smith	Announced. (Taped)  ESPNews  PGA Golf Buick Invitational Flist Round. From Torrey Pines Golf Course in San Diego.	Everybody Loves Raymond American Idol The Practice "The Making of a Trial Attorney" 48 Hours Mystery	Countdown With Keith Olber- mann Entertainment Studios.com The Hot List Headline News
18:00 18:30 19:00 19:30 20:00 20:30 21:00 21:30 22:00	The Fairly OddParents Rugrals That's So Raven All That 7th Heaven "Dick"  Sabrina, the Teenage Witch Sabrina, the Teenage Witch The Cosby Show	Entertainment Tonight  Movie *** "Finding For- rester" (2000) Sean Connery.  A reclusive writer nurtures a Bronx youth's gift for words.  (:15) Movie ** "Willd  Things" (1988) Kevin Bacon	AFN Evening News Two and a Half Men Will & Grace Desperate Housewives "Pretty Little Picture" CSI: Crime Scene Investiga- tion "Dead Ringer" Headline News	Countdown With Keith Olber- mann Entertainment Studios.com The Hot List	60 Minutes FOX News	Announced. (Taped)  ESPNews  PGA Golf Buick Invitational First Round From Torrey Pines	Everybody Loves Raymond American Idol  The Practice "The Making of a Trial Attorney"  48 Hours Mystery  Friends	Countdown With Keith Olber- mann Entertainment Studios.com The Hot List
18:00 18:30 19:00 19:30 20:00 20:30 21:00 21:30	The Fairly OddParents Rugrats That's So Raven All That 7th Heaven "Dick" Sabrina, the Teenage Witch Sabrina, the Teenage Witch	Entertainment Tonight Movie *** "Finding For- rester" (2000) Sean Connery. A reclusive writer nurtures a Bronx youth's gift for words.  (:15) Movie **x"Wild Things" (1988) Kevin Bacon. Two high-school vixens con-	AFN Evening News Two and a Half Men Will & Grace Desperate Housewives "Pretty Little Picture" CSI: Crime Scene Investiga- tion "Dead Ringer"	Countdown With Keith Olber- mann Entertainment Studios.com The Hot List Headline News Good Morning America (Left	60 Minutes  FOX News  Studio B With Shepard Smith	Announced. (Taped)  ESPNews  PGA Golf Buick Invitational First Round. From Torrey Pines Golf Course in San Diego. (Same-day Tape)	Everybody Loves Raymond American Idol The Practice "The Making of a Trial Attorney" 48 Hours Mystery	Countdown With Keith Olber- mann Entertainment Studios.com The Hot List Headline News Good Morning America (Left



Read Stripes online at WWW-Stripes - Com

#### **FACES**

#### Following in MLK's footsteps

When Harry Belafonte met the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in the 1950s, he promised to always assist in his



Thirty-seven years after King's death, the actor, singer and activist is still keeping his pledge.

Belafonte met with a group of

about 60 people, many of them children during a celebration of King's life at a Boys and Girls Club. He said the 13 years he worked side-by-side with the civil rights leader were "the most important of my life.

"Each and every one of you has the power, the will and the capacity

Belafonte said. "You should go through life knowing, "I am somebody." Freedom was the theme of many questions posed by

the kids, and one query left the 77-year-old Belafonte particularly reflective "How does it feel to be free?" asked 10-year-old Shawn

Answered Belafonte: "When I get it, I will tell you."

#### Stylish even in death

Samuel L. Jackson dies in his next huge film - but he does it in a really cool way.

Director George Lucas assured the actor that his Jedi knight character would go out in a blaze of glory in the forthcoming "Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the Sith," and the director apparently made good

on his promise. "It's rousing," Jackson told the San Francisco Chronicle. "It's a great light-saber battle with 102

moves in three big rooms.' For now, though, Jackson is enjoying the success of his "Coach Cart-



er," in which he stars as a real-life high-school basketball mentor who shuts down the program to focus on his players' lagging academic education.

#### **Criminals learn from HBO show**

David Simon's HBO series "The Wire" - a fictional account of a police investigation of Baltimore drug dealers — allegedly had some real-life dealers taking notes.

While announcing a crackdown of a cocaine ring, police said their investigation was hampered by the suspects' habit of switching cell phones - a technique for evading electronic eavesdropping they picked up from TV.

"Believe it or not, these guvs copied 'The Wire,' " one of the investigators, Sgt. Felipe Rodriguez, said at a news conference

"They were constantly dumping their phones. It made our job so much harder.

Police relied largely on wiretaps to infiltrate the gang, which made up to \$15 million a year. The result: 12 arrests and seizure of 43 kilograms of cocaine, 18 handguns, \$500,000 cash and five luxury vehicles.

#### Kirstie Alley exploits the fat facts

The person who dreamed up a TV series about Kirstie Alley's embarrassing battle with her weight and strug-gles inside the Hollywood fishbowl might be surprising. It was Kirstie Alley.

"Actually, the show was my idea," she told the Rocky Mountain News in Denver. "It was sort of like I could either die - slit my throat, knowing that I could not work for a year or however long it would take to lose the weight or I could make a series. You know, go with the flow and turn this into something fabulous. Alley admits friends warned the former star of

"Cheers" and "Veronica's Closet" that doing the upcoming Showtime series "Fat Actress" would be show-busi-

"I didn't listen. I believe that things will work out when you're honest about something and find humor in situations," she said.

Stories and photos from wire services

# 'Gentle giant' on and off screen

#### Jorge Garcia plays a cool, collected survivor on ABC's 'Lost'

BY DANIEL FIENBERG

The plucky survivors of ABC's "Lost" could serve as a casebook for how most people would respond to being stranded on a deserted (and mysterious) island. Some folks would be as handy and altruistic as Matthew Fox's Jack or as malevolently resourceful as Josh Holloway's Sawyer. Few of us would show the eerie mastery of Terry O'Quinn's Locke, but the reluctant brattiness of Maggie Grace's Shannon would probably be in abundance. For most viewers, though, emulating Jorge Garcia's Hurley would be the best of all possible worlds.

Like the subject of Rudyard Kipling's "If," Hurley has kept his head when all about him are losing theirs. Like that poem's ideal hero, he doesn't necessarily look too good nor talk too wise, but on the fractious island, he's a friend to all and an enemy to none, a gentle giant perfectly willing to do hard labor, deskwork or even invent a liberating game of island golf. It's no wonder that while Fox and Holloway and Evangline Lilly (Kate) may get the press, Garcia has broken out as one of the show's most popular stars

"I feel like suddenly I get a bit better customer service, where people are more anxious to help me," Garcia says of his public reception. "Usually when people spot me, they're really happy to see me."

While the other characters on "Lost" constantly appear grimy and miserable, stressed out and on the verge of giving up. Hurley always just seems happy to be alive. He's quick with a joke, the only castway who could possibly be described as happy-go-lucky. Garcia seems to be the same way. The 25-year-old actor arrived at auditions for "Lost" before the character of Hurley even existed and found himself reading pages for Sawyer.

Even once producers assured him that his character would exist and that copies of the pilot script were avail-able, the actor wasn't in any kind of rush to see how many lines he got or whether he'd get to have any big emotional moments. Most familiar from comedic work on "Becker" and "Curb Your Enthusiasm" Garcia had all the information he needed

"I had faith in J.J. Abrams and shooting in Hawaii

and that was pretty much all I needed to hear," he

For the first half of the shooting schedule, production has just been wish fulfillment for the Nebras ka-born actor. "I love what I've gotten to do so far," he says.

"The whole thing where I ran away from the plane and it exploded behind me and we dove out in the sand, very action star-ish, I thought that was awesome. That's not something I really expected that I would get to do in my career.'

Garcia notes, "Really all I need is a sword fight and I'll be totally satisfied

Viewers, however, are far from satisfied with the mere snippets of knowledge they've received about the life of Hugo Reyes. While certain characters, including Fox's Jack, have already had multiple episodes dedicated to their backstories, Hurley has gone entirely unexplained, barring some cryptic hints. That won't change until the season's 18th hour, an episode which hasn't even been shot yet. Garcia, in fact, hasn't even seen a script, though the producers have let him in on the character's "big secret." Whatever that secret may be, Garcia isn't telling

"Because there were hints laid out, I kinda had an idea that it was coming from here," he hedges, revealing nothing of his backstory.

"And then when I really stepped back and looked at it in the context of who Hurley has been up to this point, with the group, and that coming out in his revelation. Yeah, I thought it was pretty cool."

On the Internet, wags have been speculating for weeks over a perplexing line of dialogue where Hurley refers to

his normal life by saying, "I'm known as something of a warrior myself," a statement that has prompted buzz that Hurley could be everything from an extremely large undercover spy to an extremely dedicated Dungeons and Dragons player.

"There are certain things where you never realize what exactly the audience is going to jump on and really wonder about and catch," Garcia says of his "warrior" comment. "I didn't give that one too much attention and then I realized the attention it got on the Internet. So it made me wonder. Yeah, actually I wonder what that is.

He adds that in the script, the character smiles after making the statement, but the camera never cut back to his

As much of a conspiracy buff as he may be, Garcia isn't stressing out about solving the riddles of "Lost." Like his character, he's just content where he is, taking his off-days to swim at a favorite secluded Hawaiian beach.

"I float in the water and reflect on how great my life is right now." Garcia sighs.



### Horoscope

The last hours of the Capricom sun are for evaluating your progress over the last four weeks. Don't skip the review. It's crucial in figuring out where you should go next. In the coming weeks, there will be many eclectic influences and opportunities for distraction, so it's important to get focused now. Pen and

#### paper are your finest concentration aids. TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

(January 19). This year, you find out you are loved by many. All you have to do is create opportunities for people to show you. Letting down you guard helps. You're showered ing this through the whiter, but in the spring, you're more concerned about giving and teaching others. Investments pay handsomely in April. Love signs are Cancer and

#### ARIES (March 21-April 19). Establishing a consistent habit is

Pisces

catalisting a consistent ratio is your impossible order. And it's well worth the discipline it takes. Believe this: When you wake up every day with a single purpose, suddenly, one day, it happens — you transform.

#### TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

Daunting prospects ahead produce a strong reaction from you — like the pretty girl in a horror flick, you recoil in shock and terror. Though it's hard to see it now, your power is stronger than the monster's power.

#### GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Giving 110 percent to a project is not

only mathematically impossible, it's plain foolish. When you overdo, you deplete your resources and work against yourself. Instead, just do your best. Your best is enough.

#### CANCER (June 22-July 22).

Your community needs you. Fulfilling a purpose for the group is one of the most satisfying ways you can spend your time. Tonight, if you're not guarded, someone effusively sentimental brings you into his or her mord.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Each era has a unique spirit distinguishing it from other periods, and this is why you may have trouble understanding the younger generation. Make the effort anyway. It's an enlightening experience.

#### VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll rise above the



#### LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). There's a message you are burning to communicate. Make it short, direct and memora-

ble. Someone at work asks you to advocate on his or her behalf. Do what comes naturally. You were born to lead.

#### SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Money may be tight, but this too

shall pass. Rent a movie, and snuggle up with a sweetheart or friend. Get creative in the kitchen, and brown-bag your lunch. Frugal can be fun.

#### SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your home is a flurry of activity, as friends and family wish you

ty, as friends and family wish you well on the launch of an important project or change in status. Don't be afraid to ask for either more help or more privacy.

#### CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan.

19). Someone close to you requires your TLC — it may even be a pet or favorite plant! It may even be you. Light a candle, quiet your mind, and listen to what your body is telling you.

#### AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

Physical efforts improve your attitude. However, your current fitness routine is getting a bit, well, routine. Fend off boredom by adding variety Working out with a Gemini keeps things interesting and keeps you honest.

#### PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

Lois

and

**Beetle Bailey** 

Rover

ed and

When a partner expresses a vision different from yours, things get rough. Nobody said collaboration was easy. But if the outcome is mutually beneficial, and if you want it bad enough, you'll work it out.

Creators Syndicate

#### Peanuts













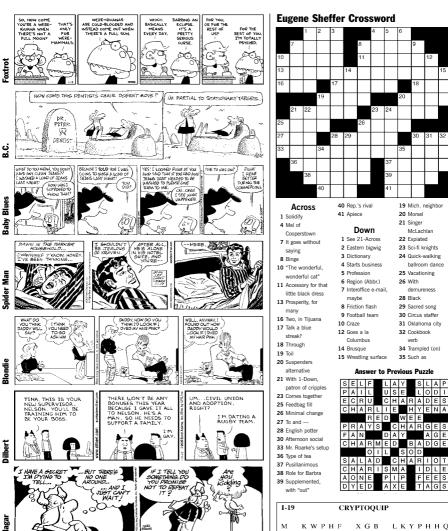








Wednesday, January 19, 2005 · STARS AND STRIPES · PAGE 23



NOT

MAY I HAVE A WORD WITH YOU?

I BELIEVE THIS
CAT HAIR IS YOURS

#### LKYPHHQ P B CMIV B M D X ZGBZGLFC w n ILZC. MB'C

TZGBBO BMZMDX BLCV Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A SKELETON PARTAKES OF DINNER, WOULD IT BE A SURE BET THAT HE PREFERS RIBS?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals T

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

and

### **People must eventually help selves**

Dear Abby: I met "Evan," the man of my dreams, when I was 18. He was 21. We had been dating only five months when he was diagnosed with leukemia. I stayed by his side the whole time, although my friends said no one would blame me

if I didn't. Evan is now finished with chemotherapy and is in remission

I was there for him when his narents couldn't be. I gave him everything I had. I even dropped out of school so I could work full time to make ends meet. Since Evan has finished his treatment, we've been trying to piece our life back together, but he has been horribly depressed

I have tried to help. I found a psychologist for him.

He agreed to go, then canceled the appointment. He re- enrolled in school this semester. However, I found out last night that he had stopped going to class a long much of how things used to be. He lied to me - and not for

the first time. To make matters worse. I had ell his parents, because they had been paying for school and sending us money to help with the bills. He had re-

Dear Abby

fused to call them. Abby, I love Evan with all my heart. His parents are offering to get him help. I'm torn between staying and leaving to rebuild my life. If he gets help for real, is it worth trying to save our relation. ship?

 Exhausted And Brokenhearted in K.C.

Dear Exhausted: You supported Evan when he could not help himself. Only he can fix his problems now. The longer you allow the status aug. the longer he will postpone taking responsibility

If he continues to procrastinate, then recognize that it's time to leave and put your own life on

track. Do not feel guilty for doing

Dear Abby: This is a fan letter. A friend of mine gave me a copy of your booklet "Keepers." I keep it on my nightstand with my early morning reading material. I like the little essay "Hugging" so much that we adopted a version of it into our daily lives. Our family says, "Hey, I need a little vitamin H," and it is followed

with a big hug. We have also invented "vitamin P," which ans a loving little pat. Thought you would like to know what a positive influence one of your letters has been to our family

— Elizabeth Tyler Brown Dear Elizabeth: Your letter warmed my heart. Everybody needs a diet rich in vitamins. My favorite is vitamin TLC, which I eniov and dispense in liberal doses to everyone I love.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440 Los Angeles CA 90069. Rear to Abby on the Internet at http://www.uexpress.com/dearabby Universal Press Syndicate

one letter to each square to form four ordinary words



ANSAUE

A ROUND BELLY CAN BE THE RESULT OF TOO MANY-Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's

.lumbles TRUTH **EXILE** HEIFER PROFIT Answer What inning did they pass the bottle around? THE "FIETH"

### Try to befriend boyfriend's family

Dear Annie: I am a 25-year-old single moth-er. I've never been married, and the situation I'm in right now does not make me look forward to

walking down the aisle.
I love "Gary" with all
of my heart. We have
dated for three years, and he eventually wants to marry, but his family is not so welcoming. I wa the reason Gary moved

out of his mother's home, and I am the reason he does not snend as much time with them as he used to.

Mind you, Annie, I do not stop him from seeing or calling them. I would never do that. His family. however, blames me. They start a lot of arguments. Last week, they lied to him about something I had said in order to make him angry with me. Fortunately, he didn't believe them, but it really upset me that they would stoop to that

Gary says he always will put me first, but I worry

I want a future with a man whose family welcomes me and

Annie's Mailbox their own. I don't see that happening here. How should I handle this? I'm afraid that our life together will be over before it begins

- Driven Away Dear Driven: The potential in-laws sound difficult and unpleasant, but the important thing is Gary's attitude and support. If you helieve that he will nut

you first, you have nothing to worry about. However, it wouldn't hurt to turn on the charm and try to warm up the relatives. Be friendly and let them know how important it is to you that Gary stay close to his family. It will help

Dear Annie: I recently bought a set of \$60 walkie-talkies for my children, and they brought the sets over to their cousins' home to play. Their 9-year-old cousin "Lila" bent over the pool, and the walkie-talk-ie fell in. The kids immediately fished it out, but it was not waterproof and stopped working.

My brain wants her parents to pay for the replacement. My heart, however, understands that it was an accident, and since we have more money than they do, we should pick up the cost. But I want Lila to understand the consequences of her actions

- Waterlogged in Florida Dear Florida: Lila's parents should have offered to replace the wrecked unit. Since they have not, you can handle it in

several ways You can pick up the cost and forget about it; you can ask the parents to replace it or pay half; you can ask that Lila make some kind of restitution by helping you shovel snow or wash your car: or vou can tell Lila that she will not be able to play with your children's toys until she is a little older and learns to be more

careful. Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comeast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, cot Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Creators Syndicate

#### **Family Circus**



"I wouldn't want to be homeschooled, but I'd like to be home-fed."

M94 1/19







#### STRIPES SERVICE DIRECTORY



#### your daily guide to navigating the European Business Market

FOR INFORMATION ON GROWING YOUR BUSINESS WITH THE SERVICE DIRECTORY CONTACT SEAN ADAMS AT CIV: 06155-601203 or DSN: 349-8203 or EMAIL: adamss@mail.estripes.osd.mil

Attorneys FSI

Attorney Joe Maiss
Full Service Law firm US & German Divorces Employment & Personal Injury

Tax, Probate, Tenant/Landlord Disputes email: maiss@hd-law.de Office: Heidelberg Tel: 06221-727-9595

Guy L. Womack Worldwide Court-Martial Defense

www.GuyWomack.com e-mail: Guy.Womack@USA.net

Phone: (713) 224-8815

LAW OFFICES JOSEPH K. KELSO U.S. Attorney at Law pecializing since 1960 in U.S. Federal ployment Law, Administrative Boards, onal Injury and Medical Malpractice, Tort Claims, International Contracts and Immigration Law.

städter Landstraße 184, 60598 Frankfurt am f Tel: (06108) 79 75 79 Fax: (06108) 79 96 22

GERMAN LAW FIRM : 06181 - 2702-28

www.court-martial-defense.com

Law Offices David Court

ne: (069) 30 10 72 Fax: (069) 30 12 68

Dental 902

CALL TODAY 0700-00-BRACES (272237)
Weekend & Evening Appointments Available

Internet Services

PISnet

 DSL FLAT RATE SAME DAY ACTIVATIO
 ALL SERVICES AND
 SUPPORT IN ENGLISH

INT RNET ACCESS

www.greennet.de DSL Flat Rate €29.90 ftm Unlimited Time & Volume or Phone: 06731-2348

STANDARD ISSUE MEETS A NEW STANDARD

Stars Stripes Your Hometown Newspaper

Wherever You Go, We Go

estripes.osd.mil

Travel Agencies

**BOOK ONLINE** Don't like your Christmas gifts?

www.us-discount-travel.com

mmy New York From All of us at US Discount Travel

Discounted Seats to the States still available!

Call toll free 0800-5878359

Mo - Fr 09:00 - 18:00 Sa 09:00 - 13.00

Oweddings ent a Ca

THY PAY MORE Please call ACS: 069 743 090 10

BANDWIDTH TRAVEL A new company meeting

all your airline travel needs Opening hours Mo-SA from 8am - 6pm

For Reservations Call: 06781 50 82 759 Military Travel International Over a million airfares worldwide

Aschaffenburgerstr 64 \* 63457 Hansu fas: 06181-906690 \* e-mail: mit@mitrave Call 06181-906690 Man - Fri: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. • Sat: 11 a

www.mtitravel.de DISCOUNT FLIGHTS

Germany to/from U.S.A. - Payment Plan METICAN www.flyusave.com ph: 0180-5007427

Standard

Issue Meets

A New

Standard

Now Stars and Stripes newspaper is also available electronically. Get

your copy for FREE at estripes.osd.mil

What's



Buy Stripes this Sunday

and every Sunday to

get your scene!



Sign Up and get a \*Free



KUWAIT Cell: Via DSN Optr: SPAIN: PORTUGAL:

TURKEY: 290 by simply dialing your mintel allHome '800 number + PIN, lends and Family in the US can innect to you directly at nazingly low rates! All your 800 Ils are billed to your account!

MILITEL **Calling Services** 

800 Number from the US!

20c

5.9c

7.9c

9.9c

On /Off Base

www.militel.net

Fast, Easy Sign Up 24 hrs! Credit Card / US Bank Debit! Itemized Monthly Billing!

24/7 Live Customer Support

CALL TOLL FREE 24 HRS Germany 0-800-1826-224 800-872-252 Italy

Spain 900-961-539 1-402-392-7513 info@militel.net

Transportation INTERGLOBAL Shipping GmbH Specialized Shipping to/from the US & Canada

info@interelobalshipping.de www.interglobalshipping.de Tel (0421) 340650 Fax (0421)340 6565

WORLDWIDE SHIPPING AGENCY SPECULIZING IN PCS WITHOUT STRESSI Ship Cars/Containers to/from US/ www.worldwide-ship.de

**Can Your Tax Guy** 

**Get Money This Fast?** Instant Money. nobody

gets your money faster. With Instant Money you can walk in With Instant Money, you can walk in with your taxes and walk out with a refund anticipation loan check. Is your tax guy that fast? Come in and get Instant Money today.

35394 Giessen 63457 Hanau 66877 Ramstein 64285 Damstad Talt 0641-9446698 Talt 105181-5747791574780 Talt 06371-617411 Talt 105151-66502

STARS STRIPES

Wherever You Go. We Go.

STANDARD ISSUE MEETS A NEW STANDARD

Stars Stripes. Your Hometown Newspaper

Wherever You Go, We Go

estripes.osd.mil

Financial Services

Call-Fax-Email for IMMEDIATE SERVICE \$700 - \$15,000

USLOANS

Z Online Service, vis... ou. **www.USLoans.cc** 049) 06371-17222 or Fax 06371-2633

E-Mail: USI conRamstein@aol.com Toll Free Tel. 0800-USLOANS (875-6267) Hours: Mon-Fri 0900-1800- Saturday's by appoint revessmus. Leading American Military Lenders

Call Today!

Phone: 0621-127 12 58

### STRIPES CLASSIFIED

### advertise with STRIPES CLASSIFIED

PLACE A PRIVATE PARTY AD IN FOUR SIMPLE STEPS †

- 1. Write an ad (be sure to include the item, price/or best offer (OBO) and phone number).
- 2. Select a 4, 7, or 30 day package.
- 3. Choose a category from the index running most days in Stars & Stripes Classified.
- 4. Decide which day you would like your ad to begin running, and submit with the appropriate ent on or before the deadline listed below. \*

puymen	it on or before the academic tisted b
MONDAY	DUE NOON THURSDAY
TUESDAY	DUE 4 PM THURSDAY
WEDNESDAY	DUE 4 PM FRIDAY
THURSDAY	DUE 4 PM MONDAY

1	FRIDAY	DUE 4 PM TUESDAY
]	SATURDAY	DUE NOON WEDNESDAY
]	SUNDAY	DUE 4 PM WEDNESDAY

#### PRIVATE PARTY PACKAGES

1. 4 lines for 4 days for \$20.00 (\$5.00 per additional line). §

Automotive

- 2. 4 lines for 7 days for \$30.00 (\$7.50 per additional line). §
- 3. 4 lines for 30 days for \$55.00 (\$10.00 per additional line). §

- † Private Party Rates apply only to Individuals advertising personal merchandise or private property for sale, up to two major faces used to as a boat, motor welfice or home. Gomercial Afters apply to for sale, up to two major faces used to a sale of the sal

# it's a SNAP

CONTACT STRIPES TO PLACE AN AD 24 hour e-moil 8 fps service (Phone Service 8:30 o.m. - 5:30 p.m.) 24 hour e-moil 8 fps service (Phone Service 8:30 o.m. - 5:30 p.m.) 25 hours (Phone Service 9:30 o.m. - 5:30 p.m.) 25 hours (Phone Service 9:30 o.m. - 5:30 p.m.) 25 hours (Phone Service 9:30 o.m. - 5:30 p.m.) 25 hours (Phone Service 9:30 o.m. - 5:30 p.m.) 25 hours (Phone Service 9:30 o.m. - 5:30 p.m.) 25 hours (Phone Service 9:30 o.m. - 5:30 p.m.) 25 hours (Phone Service 9:30 o.m. - 5:30 p.m.) 25 hours (Phone Service 9:30 o.m. - 5:30 p.m.) 25 hours (Phone Service 9:30 o.m.) CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING COUPON

☐ 4 lines/4 days @ \$20 ☐ 4 lines/7 days @ \$30 ☐ 4 lines/30 days @ \$55 Phone #: Visa/MC # (circle one): \_\_ Exp.Date

Send Payment to: APO Address European Stars & Stripes Classified Advertising Department Unit 29480, APO AE 09211 International Address European Stars & Stripes ATTN: Classified Advertising Postfach 1330, 64345 Griesheim

egral value of the ad, i.e.a., misspelled words; wrong category (case-by-case); CAPS, bold, italicized incorrectly; it will be corrected, but no makegood will be given. Incorrect ph s. Stars & Stripes reserves the right to edit and return any and all ads considered inappropriate for publishing. All classified advertisements are non-refundable.



Announcements

comes w/ stock + winter tires. \$4k contact Lynn 0175-8240090 BMW 316i '91, 4 dr, 2 Own, low-mi, deal main, showroom cond.,1950, call 0171-6429114 BMW 325i '89 Gray excellent cond, 6 cyl, sunroot, new tires, 5spd, runs great PCS'ing asking \$ 1,800 obb call 0174-6851251' Discounts Sales • Coupons \$ 1,800 000 call 01/4-b851251
BMW 5281 98 Sportwagon
Euro-spec 107k km, Black, alto,
surnool, navigation system,
leather int, exc. cond. \$17.000
neg. 06371-50253 iv message
BMW 5301 04 Sity U.S spec,
tily loaded, 11k miles, selling
moving down Range call
01/4-4426717 or 0621-7246060 600+ merchants shipping to 0174-4226717 or 0621-7246060 BMW 7301 '89 Gray metalic, auto, 130K miles, alu wheels, powed to Wheels of the cuor 2,550 call 0178-6711575 BMW 7361 '89, orienti-blue, loaded, nav, ex-cond, 154k km, 18' rims, new tires, \$19500 obo, call 0032-65690747 www.oconus.com

#### 140 Autos for Sale - Germany Used cars from \$700 to \$3000 inspection guarantee, cal BMW M5 '91, blk, 330 hp 6 zy 5 so 17' rims, tint wind, all-pwi

142 Cadillac STS '97 Seville, wht/tan interior, 300hp, new tires, premium stereo, chrome wheels \$9,500 , 0170-9181219 Audi A4 '04 conv ,3.01 U.S specs, 10k mil, silv/black interi-Dodge SRT-4 '03 Silv, pw, pd, cd, sony amp, 17 in alu wheels, 3 in custom exhaust, 21K miles, \$16,000 obo, call 0172-1062764 or, prem&sport pkg, fully loaded \$ 37K obo, call 0175-7503269 BMW 316 '92, runs great, Saab 95 '01 U.S specs, fr. loaded, 5 spd, leather, pn. sound, on star GPS, surrounder warranty, only 26k mil \$ 16,900 obo call 05/783-4448

Plymouth Voyager '95 LE Grand teal, pwr drs,win 150K frt/rear heat/air \$2,200 obo cal 0160 92943661 Wiegharlen

Motorcycles 164 HD '03 Heritage SFTL, blk & slu vh pipes loads of chrome mos vh pipes loads of chrome orig parts inc. \$19k 0170-1977997 or email: gr holzer@us.army.mil Honda Rebel '01, 250cc, US specs, blue, great condition, low miles, \$1500, call 05403-9691890

Sport Utility Vehicle 172 Chevy Trailblazer '04 LS 4 X of thick Red metallic, Excellent Condition, many extras, low miles 01605145659 Chevy Trailblazer LS '02, red, ex. cond.ac, hitch, pwr-win.pwr-lks.4x4, 29900 ml. warranty \$17,900 obc.call 09337-980648 or 0160-93576464

Auto Repairs

Nissan Frontier '01 4X4 Crew Cpb, 40k mil 5 ppl, leather, pw, pd, cric, 6 cdictor, alu wheels tow pk, call Mike 0170-655-500 (711-843794

Standard Issue Meets A New Standard

Coora Rims for Mustang, 1994 2003 Mach 1 Style, 17x9, 5 log \$800 neg. call 0160-93210728

For Sale FORD 302 V8 Engine

182

360

Baby Items

Medela Breastpump '05 Edition Pump In Style Traveler Back-pack; 220V; Paid 300 Euro sell for \$150. Call 0175-738-7486

Child Care Offered 290

30 yr old female looking for liv in nanny/house-keeping posi tion, references available ca 1062-1508189

COMPUTERS

e: 0700 2832 2255 .goarmypc.com

. LOW PAYMENTS

Now Stars and Strines newspaper is also available electronically. Get your copy for FREE at estripes.osd.mil

STARS STRIPES

Wherever You Go. We Go.

510

2 black leather Love seats \$350 each, also 2 black leather Chairs \$200 each, call 06221-7500247 Heidelberg area

Home Electronics 570

Person to Person 800

narming, elelgant, blonde Ital-in Ferm 40 D, slim, 170m tall, inversity degree, no kids, IFO lucated Gentleman, ltr., seri-s inquiry only, CP (Box) # 2, 20101 Milano Italy

Hi , Family with 2 Kids (12&1y) in the 30's age looking for Friendship in Bambero area

am searching for AFN Sat eceiver and a power adapter

Person to Person 800

ple seeks other couples for friendship and hanging out. Intrested? give us a buss! prefer couples w kids. call 06224-174074 after 18:00 820

e.v. recommends checking preeder's dub membership be

Travel

1000

retn of Garmisch Hot tub/saur Beur PP, DBL occp, free brik dogs welcome. 08824-9120 www.forsthaus.charan.

800HighTech.com



Buy Stripes this Sunday and every Sunday to get your scene!

STARS STRIPES.



Buy Stripes this Sunday and every Sunday to get your scene!



Read Stripes online at



www.stripes.com

STARS STRIPES. Your Hometown Newspaper



www.militarvcarsales.org

### STRIPES CLASSIFIED



Jobs Offered

630

Stripes this Sunday and

every Sunday to get your scene!

# Defense Systems Group

Put your military experience to the test supporting US Soldiers and the War On Terror. ManTech Defense Systems Group is looking for qualified personnel to fill the following areas of expertise for the positions listed below:

Sr. Operations Officer, Readiness Officer Property Book Officer, Senior Systems Analyst Admin Support, Facility Coordinator

Minimum SECRET clearance required. Positions available in Germany, Southwest Asia and Afghanistan.

> Apply at www.ManTech.com E-mail resume to:eric.dunlap@hq.amceur.army.mil

#### ManTech International is recruiting for a Business Development Specialist to join the European business office.

Position is located in Mannheim Germany. Candidates should have a technical background in Telecommunications or Information Technology, a solid command of the English language, and good computer skills. A current U.S. Security clearance is preferred, but not essential.

Candidates should e-mail their resume and cover letter to: Peter.wood@mantech.com



# Long, boring golf season is ahead

you might have learned, had you been snowed in and somewhere needed a golf fix so badly that you watched the Sony Open.

One, television can't get enough of Michelle Wie, who is too young to even rent a golf cart at most courses. Two, Hawaii has some pretty nice scenery, with all the beaches and palm trees and stuff.

And three, without Tiger Woods, watching golf is a better cure for insomnia than popping a handful of sleeping pills.

Which is precisely why ESPN, in a desperate bid to inject some kind of spark in its telecast, showed tape of Wie just as the leaders were playing the final holes on Sunday. The tape was from the opening two rounds, when the cable channel showed nearly every shot she hit even as the teenager hacked it around for two days and missed the cut.

The alternative of course was showing the robotic Vijay Singh methodically making his way around the course and winning another tournament.

Officially, the Sony Open was the first full-field tournament of a season that will stretch over 10 months and end with the Tour Championship in October. If it was a preview of coming attractions, it's going to be a very long season indeed.

Yes, it's early in the year, a time when half the country is still buried under snow, and a time when it's hard to get focused on golf.

But there seems to be something wrong with the PGA Tour these days that even a Tiger on the loose can't readily fix.

I remember a time, not so long ago, when golf was fun. I couldn't wait to see the Golden Bear prowling the fairways, wanted to hear Fuzzy Zoeller crack jokes and agonized along with Greg Norman as he wildly thrashed his way from one disaster to another.

Players had creative nicknames, threw clubs in disgust and sometimes even went out of their way to make things interesting for the fans.

Imagine Davis Love III pulling a rubber snake out of his bag and tossing it at Retief Goosen the way Lee Trevino did to Jack Nicklaus did on the first tee of their playoff in the 1971 U.S. Open.

More to the point, imagine Love or Goosen even smiling once on the golf course.

Phil Mickelson smiles. It's kind of a goofy grin that sometimes makes his fellow pros wonder what he's smiling about. But at least Mickelson attracts fans, even though he seemed more interested in the opening weeks of the NFL season last year than trying to help the United States win a Ryder Cun

Woods brought the magic back





to golf when he arrived on tour and began win-

ning major after major. But now Tigermania is over. and so is the golf boom that came along with it

Fans are bored, and

who can blame them? The players are boring.

That's bad news for the PGA Tour, which can expect to see TV ratings decline again this year even as purses continue to increase. Golf may be stagnant, but there's always another golf-infatuated CEO somewhere who will spend his company's money on a sponsorship so he can get a few awkward moments of air time at a tournament on Sunday.

Money is the root of some of the problem. Singh won nearly \$11 million last year, and 77 players earned \$1 million or more.

They're rich, pampered and don't seem to understand that part of the deal in exchange for that is you should try to please the people watching

A case in point is Paul Azinger, who should have been a sympathetic figure at the 2003 PGA Championship. It was the 10th anniversary of his only major win. and he had beaten cancer in between. But fans began yelling at him after he repeatedly walked past a line of kids seeking autographs, ignoring them every

Woods rarely signs autographs, too, and Singh is so wrapped up in his own little world that nothing penetrates his stoic exterior.

After winning Sunday - his seventh win in his past 11 Tour starts - Singh remarked how much of a relief it was to start the year off right so he "can start breathing again."

Funny you would say that, Vijay. Most of the time it looks as if you're not breathing at all. Dave Renwick made more than \$1 million toting Singh's bag last

Think he had something nice to say about his former boss?

"I never got a 'Good morning' from Vijay, or 'Good club' after a shot or 'Have a nice night' at the end of the day. It was either nothing or a negative if he did speak to me," Renwick told The Scotsman newspaper recently. "Being courteous isn't much to ask. There's only so much of that stuff you can

The money is very good, of course, and the players are better than ever. Golf fans want to root. and they ask only thing from the players in return: Make it fun to watch once in a while.

take, no matter how good the

money is."

Tim Dahlberg is a national sports colum-nist for The Associated Press. Write to him at: tdahlberg@ap.org

#### **SCOREBOARD**

#### **AFN TV & Radio**

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.-NBA: Indiana at Hous AFN-Sports, 12:30 p.m.—NBA: Washington at Dallas (did).
AFN-Sports, 8:00 p.m.—Tennis: Australian Open, Day 3.

#### Thursday

AFN-Atlantic, 1 a.m.—College basketball:

AFN-Adantic, 1 a.m.—College basketball: Charlotte at Cincinnati. AFN-Sports, 2:30 a.m.—College basketball: Duke at Miami. AFN-Sports, 4:30 a.m.—NBA: Minnesota at L.A. Lakers.

LA. Läßers.

AFN-Sports, 900 a.m.—NII. AFC Divisional playoff game, NY Jets at Pittsburgh (did).

AFN-Sports, 600 a.m.—NII. NY Divisional playoff game, NY Jets at Pittsburgh (did).

AFN-Sports, 600 p.m.—NII. NFC Divisional playoff game, St. Louis at Atlanta (did).

AFN-Sports, 900 p.m.—Golf: Buick Invitational, first round

All times are Central European Time; dld in-dicated delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit www.myafn.netfor more information.

#### College basketball

#### AP Men's Top 25

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press men's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 16, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and last week's

ranking:			
	Record	Pts	P
1. Illinois (58)	18-0 13-0 15-1	1.759	1
2. Kansas (13)	13-0	1.710	5
3. Wake Forest	15-1	1.612	4
4. Duke	13-0	1.525	- 5
5. Oklahoma St.	13-1	1.442	6
6. North Carolina	14-2	1,439	3
7. Syracuse	17-1	1.407	7
8. Kentucky	13-1 13-1 14-2 17-1 12-2	1.267	9
10. Washington	15-2	991	14
11. Gonzaga	13-3 11-4 14-3 14-3 13-3 10-3	876	16
12. Georgia Tech	11-4	867	8
13. Arizona	14-3	841	17
14. Louisville	14-3	788	19
15. Texas	13-3	778	10
16. Connecticut	10-3	734	12
17. Mississippi St.	15-3	669	11
18. Oklahoma	13-2	511	25
19. Michigan St.	10-3	500	15
20. Cincinnati	14-2	442	18
21. Pittsburgh	12-2	419	20
22. Alabama	15-3 13-2 10-3 14-2 12-2 13-3	383	23
24. Wisconsin	12-3	209	-
		1.45	

25. Marquette Others receiving votes: George Washington 54, UCLA 49, Texas A&M 37, Mlami 30, Charlotte 29, Florida 27, Maryland 27, Utah 24, S. Illinois 22, Notre Dame 18, Pacific 15, UTEP 12, Oregon 10, N.C. State 6, Vermont 6, W. Michigan 6, Old Dominion 5, Massachusetts 4, Neva 6d 23, Bucknell 1, St. Mary's, Cal.

#### USA Today/ESPN Top 25 poll

2. Kansas (4)	13-0	743
3. Wake Forest	15-1	710
4. Duke	13-0	676
5. Oklahoma State	13-1	632
6. North Carolina	14-2	616
7. Syracuse	17-1	601
8. Kentucky	12-2	549 1
9. Boston College	14-0	456 1
10. Washington	15-2	452 1
11. Texas	13-3	445
12. Arizona	14-3	389 1
13. Connecticut	10-3	369 1
14. Louisville	14-3	339 1
15. Georgia Tech 16. Michigan State	11-4	331
16. Michigan State	10-3	287 1
17. Pittsburgh	12-2	266 1
18. Cincinnati	14-2	246
19. Mississippi State	15-3	245 1
20. Gonzaga	13-3 13-2	225 2
21. Oklahoma	13-2	206 2
22. Alabama	13-3	149 2
23. Wisconsin	12-3	101 N
24. Iowa		71 2
25. Marquette	14-2	58 N
Others receiving votes: Geo	rge W	ashing
ton 38; Florida 15; Maryland 1:	3; Notr	e Dam
10: Iltah 8: Southern Illinois 7:		

ton se; riurius 15; Maryiand 13; Notre Dame 10; Utah 8; Southern Illinols 7; Texas A&M 6; West Virginia 6; Charlotte 5; UAB 4; New Mex-tico 4; Pacific 4; Fresno State 3; North Caroli-na State 3; Oregon 3; Wichita State 3; Arizo-na State 7; Nevada 2; Texas Tech 2; ISU 1; Saint Mary's 1; Texas-El Paso 1; UCLA 1.

#### AP Men's Top 25 fared

Monday
1. Illinois (18-0) did not play. Next: vs. No.
23 Jowa, Thursday

23 lowa, Thursday.
24 lowa, Thursday.
2. Kansas (13-9) did not play. Next: vs. Nebraska, Wednesday.
3. Wake Forest (15-1) did not play. Next: at Florida State, Tuesday.
4. Duke (13-9) did not play. Next at Miami, Wednesday.
5. Oklahoma. State (13-2) lost to No. 15

Oklahoma State (13-2) lost to No. 15 Texas 75-61. Next vs. Baylor, Saturday, 6. North Carolina (14-2) did not play, Next: at Clemson, Wednesday, 7. Syracuse (17-1) did not play, Next: at Georgetown, Tuesday, 8. Kentucky (12-2) did not play. Next: at Mississippl, Wednesday, 9. Bostón College (14-0) did not play. Next: vs. Villanova, Wednesday.

10. Washington (15-2) did not play. Next: vs. Washington State, Sunday.
11. Gonzaja (13-3) did not play. Next: at San Francisco, Thursday.
12. Georgia Tech (11-4) did not play. Next: vs. Virginia Tech. Saturday.
13. Arizona (14-3) did not play. Next: at Ore14. Louisville (14-3) did not play. Next: vs. East Carolina. Wednesday.

gon, Thursday, L.-3 did not play, Next vs. 12 Confirming New York Confirming New York (1-2) did not play Next vs. 15. Tosas (14-3) boats No. 5 Oktahoma State (1-3) boats No. 5 Oktahoma State (1-3) boats No. 14. Tosas (1-4) boa

#### AP Men's Top 25 schedule

Tuesday's games
No. 3 Wake Forest at Florida State
No. 7 Synacuse vs. Georgetown
No. 17 Mississippi State at No. 22 Alabama
No. 18 Oklahoma at Texas A&M
No. 19 Michigan State vs. Purdue
No. 21 Pittsburgh vs. St. John's at Madison
No. 21 Pittsburgh vs. St. John's at Madison

No. 21 Pittsburgh vs. S.L. John's at Source Garden Wedeneddy's games Volume Garden Wedeneddy's games Vol. 2 Kasa Medical Society of Society Volumes Vo

Saturday's games
No. 2 Kansas at Villanova

Mo. 2 Marsas et Villano de Concionada No. 2 Marsas et Villano de Concionada No. 4 Cupie et Friorida State No. 4 Cupie et Friorida State No. 5 Collamona State et Buylor de Concionada No. 5 Symanose vs. West Virginia No. 7 Symanose vs. West Virginia No. 1 State of Concionada et Jan 1997, No. 1 State of Montana State et Montana Caburph No. 1 Missistania Vi. 4 S. Scarifi Carollino No. 2 Missistania Vi. 5 S. Scar

Sunday's game No. 10 Washington vs. Washington St.

#### Monday's men's scores

Monday's men's scores
Abrenia 72, Arcaldia 67
Briar Cittl (62, Arcaldia 67)
Briar Cittl (62, Arc Ridmer St. Loyal Md. 99
Robert Morris 68, Wagner 50
Robert Morris 70
Robert 70
Robert

wis-Alliwarker TJ, Wright CS 6

Ark-Advancellos By Philander Smith Go Granding St. 66, Texas Southern 64

Houston Spatish Sg. Wiley 68

Howard Payner 79, Su Ross St. 78

Houston Spatish Sg. Wiley 68

Howard Payner 79, Su Ross St. 78

Texas TS, Odahoma St. 79

Texas TS, Odahoma St. 70

Texas TS, Odahoma

FAR WEST Colorado Christian 101, Colorado College 59 UC Davis 79, Cal Poly-SLO 56 Utah 75, Colorado St. 52 W. Baptist 104, Cascade 73 Wyoming 83, BYU 71

#### AP Women's Top 25

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press women's college baskethall poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 16, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and last week's

	Record	Pts	Pvs
. Duke (31)	16-1	1.104	1
LSU (13)	16-1 17-2	1.090	3
I. Ohio St. (1)	17-2	1.009	5
l. Baylor	13-2	934	2
. Stanford	15-2	931	6
i. Rutgers	12-3	888	4
Michigan St.	15-2	841	9
North Carolina	13-2	777	9
), Texas Tech	13-2	703	13
L Notre Dame	14-3	697	7
2. Minnesota	14-3	594	11
S. Michigan St. B. Michigan St. D. Texas Tech L. Notre Dame D. Minnesota B. Connecticut	10-4	585	16
Boston College	12-2	514	14
5. Texas	9-5	507	12
5. Maryland	12-3	363	15
7. Vanderbilt	13-3	340	17
3. DePaul	13-3	327	22
9. Iowa St.	14-1	303	24
i. Boston College 5. Texas 5. Maryland 7. Vanderbilt 8. DePaul 9. Iowa St. 10. Kansas St. 1. Georgia 1. Iowa	12-3	242	23
L Georgia	14-5	238	18
2. Iowa	14-3	128	21
2. Iowa 3. Virginia Tech	11-3	122	25
1. Purdue	10-6	67	20
5. UCLA	11-5	. 65	19
Others receiving votes:	Richmon	d 60, I	Flori
a St. 58, Penn St. 46, A	rizona S	t. 42.	New

Mexico 41, Southern Cal 38, Temple 31 Wis.-Green Bay 25, N.C. State 12, Charlotte 9 Louisiana Tech 8, TCU 8, Gonzaoa 7, Arizona Wis.-Green Bay 25, N.C. State 12, Charlotte 9, Louisiana Tech 8, TCU 8, Gonzaga 7, Arizona 5, Utah 5, Virginia 5, Houston 3, Marquette 3, Villanova 2, Kentucky 1, Mississippi St. 1.

### AP Women's Top 25 schedule

Wednesday's games No. 1 Duke at Wake Forest No. 8 Michigan State at Illinois No. 10 Texas Tech at Nebraska

No. 11 Notre Dame at Syracuse
No. 20 Kanassi State vs. Texes AAM
No. 21 SUye A Arthura Signature
No. 25 Sunford vs. No. 25 UCLA
No. 25 Sunford vs. No. 25 UCLA
No. 25 North Carolina at Florida SI,
No. 25 North Carolina at Florida SI,
No. 26 North Carolina SI,
No. 27 Sunford SI,
No. 27 SUCLA at Calorina
No. 27 SUCLA at Calorin

iki. 7 trahmasa wa. A noturty university. No. 8 Michigan State at Penn St. No. 12 Minnesota vs. Illinois No. 14 Boston College at Providence No. 16 Maryland vs. No. 2 State Sissippi No. 21 Georgia at Mississippi No. 21 Georgia at Mississippi No. 22 Georgia at Mississippi No. 22 Georgia at Mississippi No. 22 Georgia at Mississippi No. 2 Georgia at Mississippi North Carolina No. 23 Virginia Tech vs. Florida St.

Monday's women's scores

#### EAST American International 89, Bryant 55

Houston Baptist 113, Wiley 77 Howard Payne 65, Sul Ross St. 4 Jackson St. 62, Prairie View 45 Ouachita 69, Arkansas Tech 52 FAR WEST
International 74, Denver!
Jtah 62, Ind.-Pur.-Indpls. 5
Santa Barbara 85, UC Davi

### College hockey

#### NCAA Division I poll

MINNEAPOLIS — Top teams in the NCAA Di-vision I men's ice hockey poll, compiled by U.S. College Hockey Online, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 16, points, and previous ranking: cords through Jan.
mking:
Record Pts Pvs
20-3-1 600 1
14-3-3 546 2
18-5-1 507 3
18-7-0 493 4
17-6-1 434 5
14-6-2 383 6
11-6-2 383 6
11-6-2 383 10
11-6-2 383 10
11-6-2 383 10
11-6-2 383 10
11-6-2 383 10
11-6-2 383 10
13-5-2 66 1
13-7-3 85 13
13-5-2 64 5: Maine 63, Dart-

#### Deals

#### Monday's transactions

RASFRALL American League
ANAHEIM ANGELS—Agreed to terms with

ANAHEIM ANGELS—Agreed to terms with OF Jeff DaVanon on a one-year contract. BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Agreed to terms with OF Luis Matos on a one-year contract. MINNESOTA TWINS—Named Paul Molitor minor league baserunning and infield coordi-TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS—Agreed to terms with 2B Roberto Alomar on a one-year con-

TEXA. RANGERS—Agreed to terms with 2B Alfonso Soriano on a one-year contract.
National League
ARIZONA DIAMMONDBACKS—Agreed to terms with LHP Randy Choate on a two-year

contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES—Agreed to terms with
RHP Dan Kolb, SS Rafael Furcal and RHP
Chris Reitsma on one-year contracts.

CINCINNATI REDS—Agreed to terms with
OF Adam Dunn and OF Austin Kearns on or Addition and or Additional one-year contracts.

FLORIDA MARLINS—Agreed to terms with RHP AJ. Burnett, RHP Guillermo Mota and RHP Tim Spooneybarger on one-year con-

racts.

HOUSTON ASTROS—Agreed to terms with tHP Brandon Duckworth on a one-year con-

tract. LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Agreed to terms with SS Cesar Izturis on a three-year contract.
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Agreed to terms
with RHP Jason Marquis on a one-year con-

ract. SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS—Agreed to terms with 3B Pedro Feliz on a two-year contract and C Yorvit Torrealba to a one-year con-

with all PROTO Texts on a two-years solution.

ANTONAL SHARP ANTONAL SHA

BASKETBALL
National Baskethall Association
NEW YORK KNICKS-Activated G Jamal
Crawford from the injured list. Placed G
Moochie Norris on the injured list.
POOTBALL
National Football League
DALLAS COWBOYS-Fired George Warhop,
offensive line coach, and Steve Hoffman,
kicking coach.

offensive line coach, and Steve Hoffman, licking coach. SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS—Named Mike

Notan coach.

SOCCE

Major League Soccer

METROSTARS—Traded F Cornell Glen to Dallas for the 12th pick in last Friday's Super-Draft.

braft. WRESTLING
USA WRESTLING—Named Jay Antonelli, light Estrella and Dale Oliver coaches for the reco-Roman world team.
COLLEG
GEORGIA—Named Kirby Smart running lacks coach and John Jancek linebackers insigh

oach.

KENTUCKY—Announced G Joe Crawford reoined the men's basketball team.

SYRACUSE—Named Reggie Terry director
of football operations and player developnent. Named Chris White wide receivers

ment. Named Chris White wide receivers coach and recruiting coordinator.

TEMPLE—Announced DT A.J. Lindsay will forego his senior season and make himself eligible for the NFL draft.

TEXAS—Named Gene Chizik co-defensive coordinator and assistant football coach, and Oscar Giles defensive ends coach.

VIRGINIA TECH—Announced QB Marcus Vick rejoined the football teach

### TANK MCNAMARA



THE NBA PLAYERS' UNION ARGUED AND THE JUDGE AGREED THIS APPLIES TO NOMINATIONS IN THE 2004 SPORTS JERK OF THE YEAR AWARD READERS HAVE TO DISREGARD WHAT HAPPENED APTER THE PACERS WENT OVER THE OUT-OF BOUND'S LINES?



#### Tennis scoreboard

#### Australian Open

Tuesday At Melbourne Park Melbourne, Australia :: \$14.5 million (Grand Slam) Surface: Hard-Outdoor Singles

Surfaces Hand-Outdoor

When

Guillerm Coria (16, Aegentina, def, Tomas

Berdych, Carche Royallic, 6-2, 6-4, 6-6, 10-70

Berdych, Carche Royallic, 6-2, 6-4, 6-6, 10-70

Radroll, Fance, 6-2, 6-1, 5-6, 6-7

Radroll, Fance, 6-2, 6-1, 5-7

Radroll, Fance, 6-2, 6-1, 6-7

Sebastien Grospian (16), France, 6-6, 6-4, 6-7

Sebastien Grospian (16), France, 6-7

Mayne Arthur, Australia, 6-4, 7-6, 60, 7-6 (1).

Wayne Arthur, Australia, 6-4, 7-6, 60, 7-6 (1).

Grospian (16), France, 6-7

Radroll, Fance, 6-7

Radroll, Fance

man, Sweden, 2-6, 6-4, 6-0, 7-6 (7). Bobby Reynolds, United States, def. Nico-las Almagro, Spain, 5-7, 6-4, 7-6 (7), 7-6 (5). Jurgen Marchadol, Aller Marchadol, Aller Jurgen Marchadol, Aller Marchadol, Aller Andy Roddick (2), United States, def. Irakil Labadze, Georgia, 7-5, 6-2, 6-1. Rafael Nadal, Spain, def. Julien Benneteau, France, 6-6, 6-4, 6-2.

rrance, 6-0, 6-4, 6-2.
Igor Andreev, Russia, def. Lars Burgsmuller, Germany, 7-6 (2), 6-1, 6-2.
Ricardo Mello, Brazil, def. Alberto Martin, Spain, 6-3, 6-3, 7-6 (5).
Radek Stepanek. Czech Republic, def. Vince Spadea (19), United States, 6-3, 5-7, 16aa-7, 16aa-7,

Vince Spaake (19), United States, 6-1, 5-7, 12-12 January Parks, 14-12 J

Matnieu, France, 6-4, 5-7, 7-5, 7-6 (5).
Nikolay Daydenko (26), Russia, def. Roko
Karanusic, Croatia, 6-2, 7-5, 6-2.
Santiago Ventura, Spain, def. Alex Calatrava, Spain, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, 4-5, 6-4.
Nathan Healey, Australia, def. Flavio Saretta, Brazil, 4-6, 4-6, 6-1, 5-0, retired.
James Blake, United States, def. Florian
Mayer, Germany, 6-1, 6-2, 6-0.
Victor, Hangery, Domais, def. Elli-

Lleyton Hewitt (3), Austral Clement, France, 6-3, 6-4, 6-1. Women First Round alia, def. Arnaud

# Klara Koukalova, Czech Republic, def. Melien Tu, United States, 6-3, 6-5, owakia, def. Akiko Morigami, Japan, 6-4, 7-5. Tathiana Garbin, Italy, def. Mariene Weingartner, Germany, 7-5, 7-6 (5). Nicole Valdisova, Czech Republic, def. Maria Vento-Kabchi, Venezuela, 6-7 (4), 6-4, 6-2.

6-2. Lisa Raymond (25), United States, def. Anastasiya Yakimova, Belarus, 6-0, 6-1. Alicla Molik (10), Australia, def. Anabel Me-dina Gartigues, Spain, 6-1, 6-3. Anastasia Myskina (3), Russla, def. Kveta Peschike, Czech Republic, 6-1, 6-4.

Anastrasis Mayesina (3), Nossa, det Aveta escribic, Cache Nepublic, 6-1, 6-1, 4-1, 2014.

Angula Haynes, United States, 6-1, 6-4, ord. Casey Delicous, Australia, 8-4, 6-2, 6-2, and Casey Delicous, Australia, 8-4, 6-2, 6-2, and Casey Delicous, Australia, 8-4, 6-2, 6-2, and Casey Delicous, Australia, 8-4, 6-2, 6-3, and 6-2, and

Falty Schmieder (12), Switzerland, det Vul-ana Fedisk, Ukrain, e.f. 1e.1: an an Fedisk, Ukrain, e.f. 1e.1: an Amaria Fedisk, Ukrain, e.f. 1e.1: an Amaria Fedisk, Ukrain, e.f. 1e.2: a bows 31; rowa Carchi Republi, e.f. 6, 6, 7. a bows 31; rowa Carchi Republi, e.f. 6, 6, 7. a bows 31; rowa Carchi Republi, e.f. 6, 7. a bows 31; rowa Carchi Republi, e.f. 6, 7. a bows 31; rowa Carchi Republi, e.f. 6, 7. a bows 31; rowa Carchi Republi, e.f. 6, 7. a bows 31; rowa Carchi Republi, e.f. 6, 7. a bows 31; rowa Carchi Republi, e.f. 6, 7. a bows 31; rowa Carchi Republi, e.f. 6, 7. a bows 31; rowa Carchi Republi, e.f. 6, 7. a bows 31; rowa Carchi Republi, e.f. 6, 7. a bows 31; rowa Carchi Republi, e.f. 6, 7. a bows 31; rowa Carchi Republi, e.f. 6, 7. a bows 31; rowa Carchi Republik, e.f. 6, 7. a bows 31; rowa Carchi Republik, e.f. 6, 7. a bows 31; rowa Carchi Republik, e.f. 6, 7. a bows 31; rowa 6, 7. a

Ablgall Spears, white States, 1-6, which states, 1-6, see Spears, which states, 1-6, see Spears, which shall shall

# Roddick pressed but still advances

BY PAUL ALEXANDER The Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia Andy Roddick needed some time to figure out his hard-serving. left-handed opponent in the first

round of the Australian Open Roddick withstood a frenetic start by Irakli Labadze and won his opening match 7-5, 6-2, 6-1 on

"I'm in the next round, so that's what we were looking for," he

said. "Obviously, it wasn't great tennis in the first set. But the last couple sets, I felt like I started hitting the ball better - you'd rather have momentum going that way than backwards."

It served as a good warmup for Roddick, the No. 2 seed, who next plays Britain's

Greg Rusedski - another power-

Rusedski lost the first four games to Sweden's Jonas Bjork-man before rallying for a 2-6, 6-4, 6-0, 7-6 (7) win. Although Roddick has a 3-1 edge in head-to-head meetings, one of Rusedski's most memorable victor ries came against Roddick at Wimbledon in 2002.

"Greg's an uncomfortable match on any surface." Roddick said. "He's going to hit big serves, he's going to be all over the net and he's going to be very in-

U.S. Open champion Svetlana Kuznetsova faced a major distraction, declaring her innocence in a doping case. She had the day off after winning her first-round match Monday, but her practice court session drew a crowd of security, tennis officials and photographers that rivaled the turnout

for some matches on the outside courts

Fellow Russian Anastasia Myskina committed only four errors while rushing through the first set of her match against Kveta Peschke, then barely held on after losing her last three service games for a 6-1, 6-4 victory.

Top-ranked Lindsay Daven-ort, recovered from bronchitis and a sore knee, easily eliminated former Wimbledon champion Conchita Martinez 6-1, 6-0 in just

48 minutes. Martinez, with elastic bandages on her right calf and left thigh, won only seven points in the second set.

Venus Williams overcame 19 errors and three service breaks in the second set to beat Eleni Daniilidou of Greece 6-1, 7-5.

Williams, wearing a dress with a nink top and dizzving black-and-white patterned skirt, finished with 26 errors and only 17 winners. But Daniilidou, cheered on by Melbourne's Greek community — the largest outside Greece - had little to threaten the former world No. 1, managing only a single winner in the first set.

In the men's draw, No. 3 Lley-ton Hewitt of Australia, backed by a partisan crowd, beat Arnaud Clement for the third time in three weeks. Britain's Tim Henman, seeded seventh, eliminated another Frenchman, Cyril Saulniand Olympic gold medalist Nicolas Massu dealt yet another blow to France's hones here by ousting Antony Dupuis.

Roddick lost only five points on serve in the first set. But after Labadze double-faulted twice in his first game to give Roddick triple



Andy Roddick started slowly in his first-round match against Irakli Labadze but advanced in straight sets. He'll play Greg Rusedski next.

break point, he rallied to win the game. Roddick didn't get another chance until Labadze, serving at 5.6 handed him the set with mis-

Labadze, looking as though he was carrying a few extra pounds from the last time he played, quickly seemed to run out of steam and finished with 38 unforced errors while going for quick winners.

Next up is Rusedski, who dealt with his own drug scandal at last year's Australian Open and was eventually cleared. "I very much look forward to

" he said of playing Roddick. "I think mentally I'm stronger now than I've ever been.

sport.

ing Australians. Former top-ranked Juan Carlos Ferrero, who reached the semifinals here last year but is now seeded 31st, advanced by Rafael Nadal, who beat Rodbeating Melle Van Gemerden of dick in Spain's 3-2 win over the the Netherlands.

Stepanek

United States last month in the

Davis Cup final, had a 6-0, 6-4, 6-2

win over Julien Benneteau of France. Only one seeded man

lost, No. 19 American Vincent Spadea fell in five sets to the Czech Republic's Radek

French Onen finalist Guillermo

Coria, seeded sixth, beat Tomas

Berdych - the last man to beat

top-ranked Roger Federer at the

Olympics in August. Two other

Argentineans advanced, with No.

12 Guillermo Canas and No. 25

Juan Ignacio Chela both defeat-

### Kuznetsova upset by allegations, says she's clean

BY DENNIS PASSA The Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia - U.S. Open tennis champion Svetlana Kuznetsova said Tuesday she's certain she will be exonerated of allegations of doping at an offseason charity match in Belgium.

The Russian star was tested during the Dec. 18-19 Women's Tennis Trophy exhibition tournament in Charleroi, Claude Eerdekens, a regional sports minister in Belgium, said Mon-

Kuznetsova's backup sample hasn't been tested: rules call for two positive samples and a review before punishment.

Kuznetsova, in a statement released Tuesday at the Australian Open, admitted taking a cold medicine, the potential source for the banned stimulant ephedrine, at the Belgian tournament

"There is absolutely no reason why I would take a stimulant to enhance my performance at an out-of-competition exhibition match in the middle of the off-season," she said. "I pride myself on being a clean athlete of the highest integrity and am offended by these disgraceful allegations. I am sure of my innocence.

She also noted she was tested 11 times last WTA Tour Chief Executive Larry Scott

doubts Kuznetsova will be penalized "Understanding what I do now, I find it

U.S. Open champion Syetlana Kuznetsova reacts during at the Australian Open. She tested positive for the banned stimulant ephedrine during an offseason charity event.

very hard to imagine that there will be any thing of any significance resulting from this Scott told The Associated Press in a telephone interview from Melbourne

He said he had tried without success to speak with Eerdekens and called the Belgian's announcement "premature, highly irresponsible and damaging to the sport. It's some-

thing that could possibly be a common cold remedy, and the player might be innocent. Yet he's gone ahead and publicly tainted the

Ephedrine is often contained in cold remedies. It also is used in weight-reducing formulas, and some athletes take it to get a short-term energy burst and to increase alertness. Use of banned stimulants can draw a suspension of up two years, but the penalty can be reduced or waived if the athlete was using cold medicine

Under tennis' anti-doping code, ephedrine isn't on the list of banned substances during the offseason.

On Saturday, Eerdekens said someone at the four-person Charleroi event had tested positive but didn't identify the player or substance. On Monday, he issued a statement say-

ing it was Kuznetsova. We saw it was ephedrine and we saw it was an illegal product," he said by telephone

from his home in Andenne.

Kuznetsova, seeded fifth here, beat American Jessica Kirkland 6-1, 6-1 in the first round Monday and next faces Marion Bartoli of France on Wednesday.

Scott told a media conference at the Australian Open on Tuesday that Kuznetsova was "very, very disturbed" by the news.
"It is a huge distraction," Scott said. "She is

upset, starting to get angry. She is here to win tennis matches and from her perspective, this is completely unfounded.

"Our players . . . would like to see an immediate apology.

# Long, cold winter for St. Bonaventure

# Bonnies still staggering after being rocked by eligibility scandal in 2003

The Associated Press

OLEAN, N.Y. - The lunch crowd was gathering at Angees. with little buzz in the restaurant about the St. Bonaventure basketball game that night.

Bonnies were home against George Washington, then ranked No. 21 and the best team to come to town this season. Vet the closest thing to a smile inside this hangout was the one belonging to Bob Lanier. The St. Ronaventure great is wearing his No. 31 uniform and dribbling a yellowing ball in a yellowing black-and-white poster next to

"I don't think I'm going," said Fritz Gram, a law clerk and longtime season-ticket holder. "It's too painful."

the bar

"It's going to be a long year," added barber Ray Padlo. Reminded that the season's al-

ready half over, Padlo corrected himself, saying: "It's been a long year already

Olean, a basketball-mad town on the edge of the Pennsylvania border, is now home to a school struggling to win any games at all and trying to recover from a player eligibility scandal that shook

this community of 15,000. At 1-13 following the loss to George Washington, the Bonnies are off to the worst start in school history and have lost 25 of 27 The team has an RPI of 320 out

of 330 Division I programs. This is a long way from the days when the school earned four postseason berths from 1998-02 The highlight of that stretch came in 2000 when the Bonnies lost in double overtime to Kentucky in the first round of the NCAA tournament. And it's even further from the golden era of Lanier, who led the Bonnies to a Final Four berth in 1970

The current troubles stem from the scandal of March 2003. The



Tyler Relph, who is sitting out this season after transferring from West Virginia, watches St. Bonaventure lose to George Washington in Olean, N.Y., on Jan. 12 and fall to 1-13 on the year. A former New York State Mr. Basketball, Relph is excited about the Bonnies' future.

school broke NCAA junior college transfer guidelines by allowing forward Jamil Terrell to play despite earning only a welding certificate at a Georgia community

The Bonnies were barred from the Atlantic 10 playoffs that season, a decision that spurred the players to boycott their final two regular-season games and led to NCAA sanctions a year later.

The mood is more upbeat on the St. Bonaventure campus overlooking the snow-covered Allegh-

ketball office, coach Anthony Solomon clans his hands loudly greeting a visitor by exclaiming: I love this attention. If they want to talk about our record. Let them

Inside his office, Solomon acknowledges what's apparent in the standings.

"We're going through the most difficult time right now because of the growing pains that we're experiencing, especially on the scoreboard," he said. "Certainly, human nature wants you to win on the scoreboard.

The Ronnies are being outscored by an average of 16 points a night and there's been only one game in which they had more assists than turn-

44 I'm patient.

persevere

through it.

get to where

see it ao.

mains natient, see-We're going to ing gradual improvement in a young team.
"These things in terms of build-And with time, ing or rebuilding it takes time and we're going to doesn't happen overnight, lomon said. "I'm patient. We're we'd all like to going to perse-vere through it.

And with time,

Anthony Solomon we're going to get to where we'd all St. Bonaventure like to see it go.' men's haskethall coach Solomon has not had it easy since coming aboard in May 2003

as a replacement for Jan van Breda Kolff, who was dismissed after the school ruled he played a role in urging Terrell's transfer. Van Breda Kolff insists he knew nothing about Terrell's status and is suing St. Bonaventure for wrongful termination and libel.

The scandal took a darker turn in August 2003 when William Swan, chairman of the school's

part because he thought he let down his alma mater

Solomon, a former Notre Dame assistant, inherited a team that featured only six players following the defections of two returning players and two promising recruits.

The Bonnies went 7-21 last year, the modest success mostly the result of star point guard Marques Green, who has since graduated.

This year's roster to more raw, the most experienced player being guard Ahmad Smith. But there is promise in sophomore guard Tyler Relph, a former New York State Mr. Basketball, who's sitting out this sea-

son after transferring from West Virginia spring.

"You could look at it and cringe, Relph said, refer-ring to the Bonnies' record. "I've got next year, and I'm just looking forward to it. ... see 1-12, it just makes me want to come shoot more and work harder I look forward to the future."

It can't come soon enough for some, particularly in a tight commu-

nity in which there are strictly two seasons: basketball season, and the period leading to basketball season.

"I started going to games in 1946, when my father started tak-ing me, so it takes a lot to discourage me," said Gram, the law

Gram was asked if he thinks the Bonnies will turn things around.

He looked up from his plate. 'Not this year," he said

### Tucker helps Texas to upset of Oklahoma State

The Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas - After com-ing up with a big win, the Texas Longhorns wondered if their top scorer would be with them the rest of the season.

P.J. Tucker, who spent most of the first half on the bench in foul trouble, scored 15 points after the break and freshman point guard Daniel Gibson had 27 points and Daniel Gibson had 27 points and 10 rebounds in No. 15 Texas' 75-61 victory over No. 5 Oklaho-ma State on Monday night.

Tucker, a sophomore forward, is facing academic issues that could make him ineligible for the spring semester, which was to start Tuesday. That means the important Big 12 win could be his last game.

Tucker and Texas coach Rick Barnes wouldn't comment on his status after the game. For now the Longhorns can at least take comfort in the fact that Gibson appears ready to take over Tucker's role if needed



"It really motivated us," Gibson said. "It really gives guys the opportunity to step up and do big was a confidence

Especially for Gibson, who scored 17 in the first half as the Longhorns built a 12-point lead. Tucker's clutch play down the stretch — he was 9-for-9 from the free-throw line - helped stifle a brief Oklahoma State rally. Texas which also played without 6-foot-10 freshman center LaMarcus Aldridge, who is out indefinitely with a knee injury - went 25-for-28 from the line

The Longhorns hardly missed Tucker when he wasn't on the floor in the first half.

Gibson hit a pair of three-pointers and routinely snaked through the Cowboys' defense for open shots. He scored six points in a 15-3 Texas run that closed the

Oklahoma State (13-2, 3-1) was plagued by foul trouble all night Starters Joev Graham and Terrence Crawford both fouled out with more than eight minutes to

Ivan McFarlin scored 19 to lead the Cowbovs.

The Longhorns, highest-scoring team in the Big 12, forced 10 turnovers in the first half and Gibson turned two of into fast-break layuns them Texas held the Cowboys scoreless for six minutes and built a 39-27 halftime lead.

A 10-0 Oklahoma State run to open the second quickly cut the lead to two, but fouls continued to hinder the Cowboys. Crawford and Graham both picked up their fourth about 20 seconds apart.

Tucker finally did some dam-

age when he ended the Cowboys' run with his first basket, a tough layup in the lane, and Crawford fouled out. Tucker then fought his way around two Cowboys under basket to fire a sharp pass to Kenton Paulino, whose three-pointer pushed the lead to 46-39 before Gibson made it a

10-point cushion again with anoth-No. 16 Connecticut 77, Seton Hall 68: At East Rutherford, N.J., Josh Boone scored 20 points and Connecticut's frontcourt dominated on an off-night by the guards.

Freshman Rudy Gay added 18 points and Charlie Villanueva had 16 for Connections (21.2.2) ad 16 for Connecticut (11-3, 3-1 Big East), which won for the 11th time in 12 games against Seton Hall despite going 0-for-6 from

three-point range.

Andre Sweet had 22 points for the Pirates (8-7, 0-4), who lost their fourth straight and are off to their worst conference start since going 0-7 in 1985-86.



Texas' P. J. Tucker, right, scored 15 points in Monday's victory but might be academically ineligible for the rest of the season.

## NHL, union to meet for first time in more than month

BY IRA PODELL

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - For the first time in more than a month, a group of officials from the NHI. and the players' association will meet Wednesday in what could be a last-ditch effort to save the hockey season.

"We think it is appropriate and hopefully useful to engage in these discussions at this time, Ted Saskin, the union's senior director, said Monday. "We are not meeting to present a new proposal and remain committed to reaching a fair deal that does not include a salary cap."

### Session could be last-ditch effort to save season

Monday marked the 124th day of the lockout. So far, the NHL has resisted announcing dron-dead date in which a collective hargaining agreement must be made to save this season. But with 650 regular-season games plus this year's All-Star Game, already canceled, it appears that time is short to make a deal

NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman and players' association executive director Bob Goodenow, who have butted heads throughout the process, are expected to sit out this session. The idea to meet in a smaller group was hatched by players' association president Trevor Linden

Linden, Saskin and outside counsel John McCambridge will represent the players. Calgary Flames part owner Harley Hotch kiss, the chairman of the NHL's board of governors; Bill Daly, the NHL's chief legal officer; and outside counsel Bob Batterman, will be present for the owners.

The NHL is not expected to make a new proposal at the meet-

The sides have not met since

Dec. 14 when the NHL rejected the union's proposal - made five days earlier. A counteroffer made by the league also was rejected by the players during that session in

The players' association got talks restarted in December, after three months of silence, with a proposal centered on an immediate 24-percent salary rollback on all existing contracts Owners rejected that plan and

countered with a salary-cap struc-The NHLPA is adamant that it The union's offer featured a luxury-tax and revenue-sharing sys-

Bettman has said that he has no interest in a luxury tax.

During the 103-day lockout that disrupted the 1994-95 season, an agreement was reached on Jan. 11, 1995, allowing for a 48-game

son that began nine days later. If the season is wiped out, it would mark the first time in 86 years that the Stanley Cup wasn't awarded. A flu epidemic can-celed the 1919 final series between Montreal and Seattle. No North American sports league has lost an entire season due to a labor dispute.

Sports briefs

and 15-year-old girls at the quar-

terback's apartment in Blacks-

no contest to a misdemeanor

less driving and no contest to mar-

ijuana possession after a traffic

missed this place," Vick said in a

statement, "I know that I hurt a

lot of people who only want to see

me succeed. I'd like to try to

make that up to them. I'm appre-

ciative to the university and Coach Beamer for giving me this

centrate on the future

stop last summer.
"I'm excited to be back

Vick avoided jail by pleading

Vick also pleaded guilty to reck-

### Several sign, avoid arbitration

NEW YORK - Instead of swapping salary proposals, Alfonso So-riano and Cesar Izturis were Cesar Izturis among 16 players who avoided arbitration by agreeing to deals with their clubs.

Soriano got a \$7.5 million, one-year contract with Texas, and Izturis agreed to a \$9.9 million, three-year deal with Los Angeles on Monday.

Three Atlanta Braves - shortstop Rafael Furcal (\$5.6 million), closer Dan Kolb (\$3.4 million and reliever Chris Reitsma (\$1.65 million) - and three Florida Marlins right-handers — A.J. Burnett (\$3.65 million), Guillermo Mota (\$2.6 million) and Tim Spooneybarger (\$350,000) - also got one-year deals.

Seventy players remained on track to exchange figures with their teams Tuesday, but many more were expected to agree to contracts before the swap

Houston ace Roger Clemens, who still hasn't decided whether to pitch this year or retire, is expected to submit the largest request. Clemens, coming off his record seventh Cy Young Award, could top the record request of \$18.5 million set by Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter in 2001. The Dodgers' Eric Gagne and the Astros' Lance Berkman also were set to exchange figures with their clubs

One free agent agreed to a contract Monday - second baseman

#### Baseball roundup

Roberto Alomar accepted a one-year deal from the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. The 12-time All-Star, who must pass a physical before the deal is finalized, hit just .263 with four homers and 24 RBIs in 56 games for Arizona and the Chicago White Soy last season, when he was sidelined from April 21 to June 22 after breaking his right hand when he was hit hy a pitch.

Also, Carlos Delgado's agent said the free-agent first baseman had narrowed his list of possible teams to four: Baltimore, Florida, the New York Mets and Texas The agent, David Sloane, said he planned to meet with the Marlins again Tuesday.

Soriano, acquired by Texas from the New York Yankees in the Alex Rodriguez trade last February, made \$5.4 million last season, when he hit .280 with 28 homers and 91 RBIs. Several teams have inquired about a trade for Soriano

Izturis, a switch-hitter who turns 25 next month, had by far his best season last year, hitting .288 with 193 hits, four homers, 62 RBIs and 90 runs. He stole 25 bases in 34 attempts and won his first Gold Glove, committing only 10 errors.

Izturis, who made \$358,500 last season, receives a \$300,000 signing bonus and will earn \$2.05 mil-

2006, and \$4.15 million in 2007 Los Angeles has a 2008 option at \$5.85 million with a \$300,000 buy-

San Francisco infielder Pedro Feliz agreed to a \$6.1 million, two-year deal, and Arizona left-hander Randy Choate settled for a \$1.3 million, two-year contract.

Cincinnati agreed to one-year contracts with outfielders Adam Dunn (\$4.6 million) and Austin Kearns (\$930,000).

Also getting one-year deals were St. Louis right-hander Jason Marquis (\$3 million), Baltimore outfielder Luis Matos (\$1,025,000), Angels outfielder Jeff DaVanon (\$925,000) and Houston right-hander Brandon Duckworth (\$500,000).

In a deal late Sunday, left-handed reliever J.C. Romero agreed to a \$3.7 million, two-year contract with Minnesota

In deals announced Tuesday Right-hander Tomo Ohka greed to a \$2.75 million, agreed one-year contract with the Washington Nationals, a raise of \$412 500

The Texas Rangers agreed to a e-year contract with outfielder Gary Matthews Jr.

Matthews, 30, batted .275 with 11 home runs and 36 RBIs in 87 games for Texas last season.

The Colorado Rockies locked up two key parts of their rotation, agreeing to contracts with right-hander Jason Jennings and lefty Joe Kennedy.

### Teen Wie invited to play in LPGA Championship

HAVRE de GRACE, Md. -Michelle Wie accepted an invitation Monday to play in the LPGA Championship, making it likely the 15-year-old golfer will compete in all four of the women's majors this year.

Wie and other top amateurs like Paula Creamer and Jane Park have not played the Mc Donald's LPGA Championship because it was for professionals. field from 144 to 150 players, offering one of those additional spots to a "leading amateur."

Three extra exemptions will go to a top player from the Korea LPGA, the Japan LPGA and the Ladies European Tour, and the remaining spots will go to the next two LPGA Tour players from a priority list

The LPGA Championship will be played June 9-12 at Bulle Rock

Wie already accepted an amateur exemption to the Kraft Nabisco Championship on March 24-27, and she is exempt to the U.S. Women's Open in late June because she tied for 13th a year

She is expected to get an exemption to the Women's British Open at Royal Birkdale in July.

Wie is coming off her second an pearance on the PGA Tour, shooting rounds of 75-74 in the Sony Onen to miss the cut by seven Suspended QB Marcus Vick

Falcons quarterback Michael

Vick joined his teammates for a

meeting, re-enrolled at the univer-

sity and started classes. The uni-

versity and head coach Frank

Beamer cleared the 20-year-old

to return to all football-related ac-

tivities after being suspended for

### opportunity. Now I'm ready to put the past behind me and con-Suspended Pitt guard charged with burglary, simple assault

PITTSBURGH - Suspended Pittsburgh guard Yuri Demetris faces burglary and simple assault charges after allegedly entering a former girlfriend's apartment twice through a bedroom window and hitting her with a closed fist, university police said Monday. Demetris, suspended indefinite-

by coach Jamie Dixon after being arrested Sunday, will have a preliminary hearing Thursday. Dixon said Sunday that Demetris would not practice while serv-

ing the suspension, but did not mention the player's arrest.

#### rejoins Hokies **World Cup tickets** BLACKSBURG, Va. - Virginto go on sale Feb. 1

ia Tech quarterback Marcus Vick HAMBURG, Germany - Tickwas cleared Monday to rejoin the ets for the 2006 World Cup go on team after being suspended this sale online Feb. 1 with 850 000 of season because of a night of drinkthe 3.2 million seats available in ing with underage girls. the first stage. Each fan will be able to order The younger brother of Atlanta

up to four tickets for seven games each. Applications will be processed by lottery after the first two months of sales. Tickets fo the 64 games also will be offered when World Cup qualifications end this year and after the final

The tournament begins June 9. in Munich and ends a month later in Berlin.

For more information online: www.FIFAworldcup.com.

#### Thai hockey. Saudi soccer help tsunami relief Players from the Farangs (the Hall, who is from Nova Scotia

The Associated Press

BANKGOK, Thailand - The NHL donated \$33,800 toward tsunami relief efforts in Thailand as part of a charity hockey game by Bangkok-based players.

A team of players from the United States, Sweden, Finland, Germany, Japan and Thailand defeated a Canadian squad 7-6. The NHL donated \$2,600 for each

"We've played a lot of hockey here for more than 10 years, but this is the team's proudest moment," Bangkok Flying Farangs defenseman Kevin Hall said. Thai word for foreigners) and the Thai-World Hockey League scrambled to put together the event to aid the Red Cross Thai, land's efforts to help thousands of survivors in the country's tsunami-devastated south

A capacity crowd of 700 attended Sunday night's game at Bangkok's Central World Plaza rink, donating about \$5,000 at the door. Family, friends and hockey fans in North America and Europe were asked to donate through an account set up by the Canadian Embassy.

said that with all the contributions the team should surpass its goal of raising \$50,000. Also, Saudi Arabia's soccer as-

sociation Tuesday pledged \$250,000 to a tsunami solidarity fund set up by FIFA and the Asian Football Confederation The pledge was announced as a Saudi delegation visited FIFA's headquarters in Switzerland.

Five of the Farangs did volunteer work after the Dec. 26 disaster, retrieving bodies, meeting grief-stricken relatives and aiding the identification process.

the fall semester. Marcus Vick was arrested in February 2004, along with team-mates Mike Imoh and Brenden Hill, after an encounter with 14

## **Spurs put clamps on high-scoring Wizards**

BY T.A. BADGER The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO - Tony Parker and the San Antonio Spurs figured out a way to slow down the Washington Wizards' high-scoring offense

Devin Brown scored 24 points, Parker added 23 and the Spurs stifled Washington's top scorers in a 101-73 victory, snapping the Wizards' seven-game winning streak.

The Spurs, who have the best defense in the NBA, limited the Wizards to season lows for points and shooting percentage (31.8 percent). Washington had scored 100 or more points in its past 10 games

Gilbert Arenas, Washington's high scorer at 23.2 points per game, missed all 12 of his shots from the floor and finished with three points, while Antawn Jamison (20.3 ppg) scored six points on 2-for-8 shooting.

"I just tried to stay in front of him the whole game and stay in his face," said Parker, who guarded Arenas

San Antonio jumped out to a 21-2 lead, and the Wizards were not able to get any closer than 13 points in their first loss of 2005.

"We lost a tough game in Hous-n [on Saturday]," said Brown. ton [on Saturday] who had scored only 13 points in his past five games, "We just had to bring more juice tonight, more focus. That's what we did."

Spurs coach Gregg Popovich praised his team's defense, which gives up an average of 85.3 points ner game but said Arenas and Jamison were clearly off their

"When you apparently shoot as poorly as those two did, you have to say it was just a bad night," Pop-ovich said. "It was not just that our defense held them to that."

But Arenas disagreed, crediting the Spurs' defense for keep-ing the Wizards out of their offensive rhythm.

"Their rotation is so great," he said. "They didn't let us do anything tonight. We couldn't get a good look or an easy look.

The Wizards played without Larry Hughes, sidelined with a broken right thumb sustained Saturday in a win over Phoenix. San Antonio's Manu Ginobili missed the game with a thigh bruise.

"We always said that Gilbert and Larry play so well together, Washington coach Eddie Jordan said. "I don't know if [Hughes' absence affected Gilbert. He didn't shoot the ball well, but I thought he tried to run the team the right

Brent Barry, starting in place of Ginobili, made all five of his

three-point attempts and finished with 17 points. Tim Duncan scored 11 points and grabbed 11 rebounds, and Rasho Nesterovic had 12 rebounds and a season-high five blocks.

The Spurs made 12 of 16 three-pointers. Brown, who tied his career high for points, went 4-for-6 behind the arc.

Jarvis Hayes scored a career-best 27 points for Washington including five three-nointers in seven attempts.

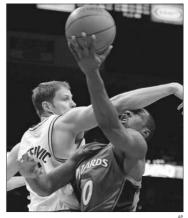
Parker and Nesterovic each made two inside baskets to give San Antonio an 8-0 lead in the first four minutes.

Brendan Haywood scored the Wizards' first points on a dunk, but Nesterovic hit a 16-footer to start a 13-0 run for the Spurs. Barry made a short jumper and San Antonio's first three-pointer during the run.

Hayes came in for Washington near the end of the first and made a layup and two three-pointers to cut the difference to 30-15.

The Wizards played even with San Antonio through most of the second period before two baskets by Bruce Bowen and a short runner by Parker extended the Spurs' lead to 55-34 at the break.

Arenas and Jamison together shot 0-for-11 in the half, while Duncan made only one basket in four attempts for San Antonio.



Spurs center Rasho Nesterovic fouls Wizards guard Gilbert Arenas as he drives during the second quarter. Arenas was 0-for-12 from the field.

#### NBA scoreboard

#### Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division							
	W	L	Pct	GB			
Boston	17	20	.459	-			
New York	17	20	.459	-			
Philadelphia	17	20	.459	-			
Toronto	16	23	.410	2			
New Jersey	13	24	.351	4			
Southeast Division							
Miami	28	11	.718	-			
Washington	22	14	.611	41/2			
Orlando	20	16	.556	61/2			
Charlotte	8	26	.235	171/2			
Atlanta	7	28	.200	19			
Central Division							
Detroit .	23	14	.622				
Cleveland	22	14	.611	1/2			
Indiana	18	17	.514	4			
Chicago	17	18	.486	5			
Milwaukee	13	23	.361	91/2			
Western Conference							

WIIIWaukee	13	23	-301	372			
Western Conference							
Southwest	Divis	ion					
	w	L	Pct	GB			
San Antonio	31	9	.775	-			
Dallas	23	12		51/2			
Memphis	21	18	.538	91/2			
Houston	20	18	.526	10			
New Orleans	5	32	.135	241/2			
Northwest	Divis	ion					
Seattle		9	.750	-			
Minnesota	19	18		81/2			
Portland	15	21	.417	12			
Denver	15	22	.405	121/2			
Utah			.350	15			
Pacific Division							
Phoenix	31	8	.795				
Sacramento	25		.694	41/2			
L.A. Lakers		16		91/2			
L.A. Clippers	18	19		12			
Golden State		27	.308	19			
Monday's games							
Chicago 88, New York							
Milwaukee 99, Charlo		2					
New Jersey 85, Atlant	a 84						

New Jersey 85, Atlanta 84 Philadelphia 95, New Orleans 91 Detroit 94, Phoenix 80 Sacramento 89, LA. Clippers 83 San Antonio 101, Washington 73 Toronto 100, Minnesota 91 Memphis 93, Houston 80 Utah 102, Lat. 67, Genver 97 Tuesday's games Detroit at Orlando

Detroit at Orlando Indiana at Houston Washington at Dallas Denver at Seattle Portland at Sacramento Wednesday's games Chicago at Boston New York at Toronto Philadelphia at Charlotte Atlanta at Miami

Philadeiphila at Chariotte
Atlanta at Miami
Milwaukee at New Orleans
L.A. Clippers at San Antonio
Memphis at Prioenix
Cleveland at Portland
Minnesota at L.A. Lakers
Thursday's games
L.A. Clippers at Dallas
Houston at Orlando
Cleveland at Sacramento

#### Monday Bulls 88. Knicks 86

Lais 32.78 19.57 85.

Lais 32.78 19.57 19.

Lais 32.78 1

#### Bucks 99, Bobcats 92

MILWAUKEE — Mason 5-12 6-6 16, J.Smith 5-10 2-2 12, Gadzuric 6-10 1-5 13, M.Williams 1-62-2 4, Red 8-20 7-9 27, Van Horn 2-5 3-57, James 4-9 3-5 11, Pachulla 4-8 0-0 8, Kukoc 0-4 0-0 0, Strickland 0-3 1-2 1. Totals 3-7 25-36 99. CHARLOTTE — Wallace 2-12 8-8 13, Okafor

CHARLOTTE — Wallace 2-12 8-8 13, Okafor 7-16 1-4 15, Brezze 6-14 3-6 11, Knight 4-9 2-2 10, Rush 5-12 0-0 11, Hart 2-2 2-3 6, Sampson 0-11-2.1, Boggans 1-3 4-4 6, Ely 2-8-0-04, Robin-son 0-1 2-2 2, White 0-0 1-2 1, Kapono 5-11 1-1 12, Totals 32-89 25-34 92. Milwaukee 23 19 28 29-99

Charlotte 28 19 23 22—92
Three-Point Goals—Milwaukee 4-16 (Redd
4-11, M.Williams 9-1, James 0-4), Charlotte
3-12 (Rush 1-1, Wallace 1-4, Kapono 1-5,
Bogans 0-2). Fouled out—None. Rebounds-Milwaukee 68 (Gadzurle 10), Charlotte 51
(Okafor 11), Assists—Milwaukee 20 (M.Williams 9), Charlotte 20 (Knight 10). Total
fouls—Milwaukee 26, Charlotte 30. Technicals—Strickland, White. A—10-523 (23.319).

#### 76ers 95. Hornets 91

Toers 95, Morets 91
MEV ORLEARS—Nallon 9,15 e 23, Rogers
MEV ORLEARS—Nallon 9,15 e 23, Rogers
49 15, Smith 9,3 96, 14, Smith 9,1 96, 14, S

#### Nets 85. Hawks 84

NEW JERSEY — Buford 3-9 0-0 7, Collins 3-10 3-5 9, Krstic 4-8 4-4 12, Kidd 8-21 4-4 23, Carter 9-22 3-8 23, J.Smith 1-4 0-0 2, Best 2-6 0-0 4, Vaughn 1-1 0-0 2, Moiso 1-1 1-2 3, Totals Carter 9-22 3-82 3, Smith 1-4 0-0 2, Best 2-6 0-4, Vaughn 1-10-02, Moiso 1-11-2 3. Totals 32-24 2, Walker 3-18 8-12 14, Collier 47 1-29, Lue 7-11-27, Josmith 2-7 1-25, Childress 1-4 3-45, Problem 2-7 1-25, Childress 1-4 3-45, Problem 2-7 1-6 2-7, Valve 1-10-02, Anderson 0-10-00, Ekezle 1-1 3-4 5. Totals 30-74 21-380 (2-20).

30-74 21-30 84.

New Jersey 26 16 22 20-85
Atlanta 18 19 21 26-84
Three-Point Goals—New Jersey 6-17 (Kido
3-10, Carter 2-4, Buford 1-2, Best 6-1), Atlanta
Walker 6-6, Fouled dut—Krist, Vaulgin, Rebounds—New Jersey 49 (Krstic 9), Atlanta 52
(Walker 10-6, Isssits—New Jersey 16 (Carter
6), Atlanta 19 (Lue 10). Total fouls—New Jersey 26, Atlanta 24, A—17,094 (19/45).

#### Pistons 94, Suns 80

Detentit 29 28 22 15—94 Three-Point Goals—Phoenix 3-17 (Jacobs-en 1-2, Johnson 1-3, Richardson 1-9, Barbosa O-1, Marion 0-2, Detroit 5-15 (Billiups 2-5, Hamitton 1-1, Prince 1-1, R.Wallace 1-6, September 1-1, R.Wall

#### Kings 89, Clippers 83

Kings 89. (Lippers 83
SACAMMENT — Stojakovic 815 50 17.
Webber 9-13-4-21. Miller 2-11 0-4. Mobble
19-13-4-21. Stoppers 19-13-4-21. Miller 2-11 0-4. Mobble
19-13-4-13-13-4-4-4. Mobble
19-13-4-13-4-4-4. Mobble
19-13-4-13-4-4-4. Mobble
19-13-4-13-4-4-4. Mobble
19-13-4-4-4-4-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4-4-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4-4-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4-4-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4-4-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4-4-4. Mobble
19-14-4-4-4-4. Mobbl

#### Spurs 101, Wizards 73

Spurs 101, Wizards 73
Washinton Lamiegra 24,11, Lifties
24-0-0,4 Haywood 1-6-0-2,2 Arenta 6-12-24
3, Dionn 4(9-1), Lin, Ethipmas 3-6, 24
2-2-2,5, Report 6-2,1-2, Report 6-2, Repo

### Raptors 100. Timberwolves 91

TORONTO – Peterson 1-7 0-0 2, 80sh 7-15 5-8 19, Araujo 1-4 1-2 3, Alston 6-12 4-4 18, Ewilliams 2-5 0-3 4, Rose 6-12 4-4 18, Ewilliams 2-5 0-3 4, Rose 6-12 4-4 16, Mar-shall 7-12 2-2 27, Murray 2-44-5, Bonner 1-2 MINNESOTA — Sprewell 1-6 2-3 4, Garnet 9-15 2-4 20, Thomas 2-2 1-2 5, Hassell 4-8 2-3 10, Carter 1-7 1-23, Griffin-3 11-0-7, Szczerb-1 ak 5-14 7-7 25, Hudson 6-17 3-4 15, Holberg 9-10-0, Johnson 0-6 2-2 2-1 70 table 3-5-83 29-2-1

14). Assists—Toronto 23 (Alston 15), Minne-sota 23 (Hudson 7). Total fouls—Toronto 20, Minnesota 25. A—16,632 (19,006).

#### Grizzlies 99, Rockets 80

HOUSTON — McGrady 10-19 8-8 28, Howard 1-6 3-4 5, Yao 4-6 0-0 8, Sura 2-8 3-4 8, Wesley 4-9 3-3 13, Mutombo 0-4 0-0 0, Barry 1-6 0-0 3, Taylor 3-4 1-2 7, Barrett 1-5 0-0 2, Bowen 1-1 0-0 3, Padgett 1-3 0-0 3, Knight 0-1 0-0 0. To-tals 28-72 18-21 80.

6 3. Padgett 1.3 D-3. Kinjin to 1.6-0. To 2. Minjin to 1.6-0. To 3. Minjin to 1.6-0. To 3. Minjin to 1.6-0. To 3. Minjin to 3. Minjin to 3. Minjin to 4.6-0. To 4.6-0

fouls-Houston 23, Memphis 23. Techni-cals-Houston Defensive Three Second, Wells. A-18.119 (18.119).

#### Jazz 102, Lakers 94

JAZZ 1U.Z, LAKERS 94
UTAH - BOOZER 8-14 2-2 IR, Harpring 7-17
4-6 19, Borchardt 2-3 1-15, Girlceck 6-13 6-0 15, McLeod 6-6 0-0, Lope 2-3 6-0 7, Okur 3-85-5
11, Bistoy 4-5 0-0 9, Bell 7-11 1-116, Snyder 1-5
11, Bistoy 4-5 0-0 9, Bell 7-11 1-116, Snyder 1-5
11, Bistoy 4-5 0-0 9, Bell 7-11 1-12 1-52, Odom 3-11 4-4 10, Mihm 1-3 5-7, Vujacic 2-7 1-27, Atkins 7-18 2-7 1-2, God 4-8 0-9 11. Totals 3-11 1-2 1-2 (1-1) 1-1

Utah 26 20 22 34-102 LA\_Lakers Three-Point Goals-Utah 7-14 (Giricek 3-4, Lopez 1-1, Bell 1-1, Elsley 1-1, Harpring 1-3, Snyder 0-1, McLeod 0-3), LA\_Lakers 8-28 (Cook 3-7, Vujaice, 2-5, Atkins 2-11, Brown 1-4, Butler 0-1). Fouled out.—None. Rebound-s-Utah 47 (Okur 12), LA\_Lakers 53 (Odom 10), Assists—Utah 26 (Lopez 9), LA\_Lakers 21 (Odom 6), Total fouls—Utah 27, LA\_Laker ers 16. Technical—L.A. Lakers Defensive Three Second. A—18,111 (18,997).

#### Warriors 107, Nuggets 97

Warriors 107, Nuegets 97

DEWYR — White 36 0.6, Anthony 6.18
6.2 M. Martin 3.14.5 6.11, Bucknet 1.1.0.0.1
6.3 M. Martin 3.14.5 6.11, Bucknet 1.1.0.0.1
6.4 M. Martin 3.1.0.0.1
6.

#### Scoring leaders

28.5 27.5 27.2 26.0 24.9 24.8 24.1

23.8 23.2 23.2 23.0 22.2 22.1 21.9 21.7 21.5

G FG FT PTS AVG 34 333 262 969 28.5 Bryant, LAL Nowitzki, Dall. Stoudemire, Phoe. James, Clev. McGrady, Hou. Allen, Sea. 34 285 34 296 38 362 36 337 35 304 36 291 298 283 263 186 189 191 934 924 987 895 867 866 Allen, Séa. Wade, Mia. Arenas, Wash. Garnett, Minn. O'Neal, Mia. Jefferson, N.J. Maggette, LAC Duncan, S.A. Redd, Mil. Pierce, Bos. 35 33 287 251 306 338 238 212 330 284 250 256 183 218 197 227 280 191 142 251 36 38 33 33 39 35 37 873 733 729 853 761 797 292 259

# Suns finish four-game trip on the low road

The Phoenix Suns are heading home with their high-speed of fense dragging, their point guard hurting and their losses mounting. It was a miserable road trip for the NBA's best team.

Tayshaun Prince scored a career-high 26 points to lead the Detroit Pistons past slumping Phoenix 94-80 on Monday, dropping the Suns to 0-4

NBA roundup

trip and 31-8 for the season. "It's time to home. It has been

tough road trip," Suns coach Mike D'Antoni said. "Obviously. they beat us on the boards, beat us all day, beat us up - beat us in anything you want to talk about.

The Suns were held to a season-low point total without Steve Nash, who was sidelined for a second consecutive game with a bruised left thigh. The point guard hopes to play Wednesday at home against Memphis.

"Obviously, their team is different without Steve Nash," Detroit guard Chauncey Billups said "But I just thought we played

While the Suns have struggled recently, the Pistons have started to return to the form that led them to the NBA championship last season, winning for the sixth straight time - and 11th in 13.

Prince has played a big role in the run, averaging 20.3 points in his last three games. He made the winning shot Saturday against Philadelphia

"The last three weeks he has had a stretch as good as any young player is going to have, Pistons coach Larry Brown said.

Detroit's Richard Hamilton scored 16 points, Rasheed Wal-lace and Antonio McDyess each had 13 points and eight rebounds. and Ben Wallace added 11 points and 15 rebounds Joe Johnson led the Suns with

points. Amare Stoudemire scored 16 and Quentin Richardson had 13, but the Pistons outrebounded Phoenix 57-41 and had 13 more offensive rebounds.

Jazz 102, Lakers 94: At Los Angeles, Matt Harpring scored 19 points, Raja Bell had 14 of his 16 in the fourth quarter and Utah



Suns, from left, Shawn Marion, Quentin Richardson, Joe Johnson, and Amare Stoudemire sit on the bench during the fourth quarter of their fourth straight loss to Detroit on Thursday, Detroit held Phoenix to a season-low point total in its 94-80 victory.

beat the Lakers for just its fourth win in 18 games.

Caron Butler led the Lakers with 26 points and six rebounds.

The Lakers played their second game without star Kobe Bryant. who severely sprained his right ankle last Thursday. Team spokesman John Black said before the game that Bryant will be sidelined at least two more weeks

Bulls 88. Knicks 86: At New York, Ben Gordon scored on a driving 8-footer with one-tenth of a second remaining to give Chicago its seventh straight win, the Bulls' longest winning streak since the 1997-98 team won 13 in

Stephon Marbury had 25 points to lead the Knicks, who have lost seven of eight.

Bucks 99. Bobcats 92: Michael Redd scored 27 points and Dan Gadzuric had 13 points and 10 rebounds to help visiting Milwaukee break its four-game losing streak

Emeka Okafor had 15 points and 10 rebounds for the slumping Bobcats, who have dropped five straight

76ers 95, Hornets 91: Kenny Thomas had 21 points and 15 re bounds, Allen Iverson scored 29 and the 76ers nearly wasted a 25-point lead in the fourth quarter before beating visiting New Orleans.

New Orleans, playing without injured leading scorer Baron Davis, was led by Lee Nailon's 23 points

Nets 85, Hawks 84: Jason Kidd scored 19 of his 23 points in the second half, and New Jersey ended a four-game losing streak with a win in Atlanta

Vince Carter also scored 23 points for New Jersey, which broke a five-game road losing

Al Harrington led Atlanta with

Kings 89, Clippers 83: At Los

Angeles, Chris Webber scored 23 points and Cuttino Moblev hit a clutch three-pointer with 59.6 seconds left for Sacramento.

Mobley scored 19 points in his second game with Sacramento since being acquired from Orlando for Doug Christie on Jan. 10. Sacramento has won four

Elton Brand had 24 points and

10 rebounds for Los Angeles Raptors 100, Timberwolves 91: Donvell Marshall made six

three-pointers and scored points, leading Toronto to its first win in Minnesota since beginning NBA play in 1995-96.

Rafer Alston had 18 points and 15 assists for the Raptors, who snapped an 11-game road losing streak, one shy of a franchise

Wally Szczerbiak led the Timberwolves with 25 points for Minnesota, which fell to 3-7 in Janu-

Grizzlies 99. Rockets 80: At Memphis, Tenn., Stromile Swift scored 18 points and Jason Williams added 16 to lead the Grizzlies to their ninth win in 10 games.

Tracy McGrady had 28 points for Houston, which had its four-game winning streak end.

Warriors 107, Nuggets 97: At Oakland, Calif., Jason Richardson did everything in his first game back from a sprained ankle, scoring a career-high 42 points and matching his career best with eight assists to help Golden State end its season-long nine-game losing streak

Carmelo Anthony had 24 points and eight rebounds in Denver's seventh loss in eight games.

### Bryant doesn't have fracture, still out two more weeks was injured when he landed on Cleveland

The Associated Press LOS ANGELES - Lakers star Kobe Bry-

ant will be sidelined at least two more weeks with a severely sprained right ankle. Team spokesman John Black said before

the Lakers faced the Utah Jazz on Monday night that the NBA's second-leading scores was examined earlier in the day by team physician Dr. Steve Lombardo and foot specialist Philip Kwong.

A CT scan confirmed there was no fracture

"Kobe will be re-evaluated in approximately one week," Black said. "He has made improvement. He still can't put weight on his right foot.

Black said there was no target date for

briefs

Bryant's return 'We're just saving a minimum weeks," Black said. "We'll have a better idea next week.

Should Bryant return in two weeks, he'll miss a minimum of six more games and

Bryant, hurt in the first quarter of Thursday night's victory over Cleveland, was placed on the injured list Saturday - before the Lakers beat Golden State.

"We were hoping for far better, but that's the way it is in this league," Lakers coach Rudy Tomjanovich said regarding Bryant's status. "You can always hope. I'm not a medical guy.

Tomjanovich said he spoke with Bryant early Monday. "He said it was still throbbing," the

coach said, adding Bryant seemed to be in good spirits

When asked what the Lakers do differently without Bryant, Tomjanovich replied: "We just run different plays. There's plays where he's the focal point. Obviously, we're not running a lot of them

Lamar Odom and Caron Butler have picked up the slack since Bryant was injured.

"It could have been more serious," Butler said. "His spirits are high - it's getting better. We're just praying for him, hope he gets better soon.

Bryant, averaging 27.5 points per game

forward Ira Newble's right foot while going for a rebound under the Cavaliers

Rookie Sasah Vujacic started Saturday and Monday in Bryant's guard spot.

#### Magic activate center DeClercq

ORLANDO, Fla. - Magic center Andrew DeClercq was activated from the injured list Tuesday after being sidelined all season because of surgery on his right knee.

To make roster room, center Mario Kasun was sent to the injured list with left knee tendinitis. The rookie averaged 2.6 points and 2.9 rebounds in 25 games.

DeClercq has averaged 4.8 points and 4.3 rebounds during his nine-year career.

# Steelers expect improved play from Roethlisberger

### Mistakes will be more costly this week

The Associated Press

DITTSBUDGH lan Faneca must be trying to motivate Ben Roethlisberger again. The offensive lineman

said the Pittsburgh Steelers badly need Roethlisberger to upgrade his play for Sunday's AFC champi-onship game against New En-gland, after the rookie quarterback's errors nearly led to a playoff loss to the New York Jets

"He's going to have to pick his game up," Faneca said Monday. "We're all going to have to pick our game up, and it's going to take our best effort of the season to win this week."

Roethlisberger, the NFL's Of-fensive Rookie of the Year, threw two interceptions one for a touchdown and another creating Doug Brien's potential game-winning field goal try - and got nothing going as the Jets scored 17 consecutive points in the second and third quarters.

The Steelers came back to win 20-17 in overtime Saturday, but only after Brien missed two field goal tries in the final two minutes of the fourth quarter

"He was off a little bit, but we were all off a little bit as an offense." Faneca said

Faneca wasn't singling out the rookie, but said that kind of quarterback play won't be good enough — not after the Super Bowl champion Patriots held NFL MVP Peyton Manning's high-output Colts offense to a field goal in a 20-3 win Sunday.

Still. Faneca's motivating words were reminiscent of those the day after former starting quarterback Tommy Maddox injured an elbow Sept. 19 in Baltimore, making Roethlisberger the starter by default

Then, Faneca said he wasn't overly excited about going into a game with "some little young kid who's just out of college" rather than a veteran like Maddox. Roethlisberger went on to lead the Steelers to a 13-3 victory in

If Roethlisberger picked up a Sunday newspaper, and he insists he doesn't, he would have read fan comments calling for Tommy Maddox to replace him despite an unequaled 14-0 record as a start-

"He had a rough game, people were really down on him and said he played bad, but he's a young quarterback, and he has a lot in his face right now," linebacker James Farrior said. "But he's such a good player, he knows how to handle every situation like he's done it all year, and he's sure do the same this week.

Especially since the Patriots will likely try to be in the rookie's



Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger (7) suffered through a miserable game against the Jets, but Pittsburgh still won. He likely won't be as lucky this week if he has a similar performance against the Patriots.

face all night, something they didn't do in their 34-20 loss in Pittsburgh on Oct. 31. Roethlisberger threw two touchdown passes to Playico Rurress as the Steelers opened a 21-3 lead in the first quarter and went on to end New England's 21-game

Faneca thinks Roethlisherger will be just fine if he quickly moves on to the Patriots and doesn't keep replaying the mistakes against New York.

"Everybody always wants to know how he handles the pressure, the setbacks," Faneca said. "Just like everybody else, nobody likes it, but you've got to think about it for a minute, brush it off and move on to the next play. That's how Ben's been handling things all year."

The Steelers don't sound overly concerned that, unlike the other NFL division champions coming off a first-week bye - the Patri ots, Falcons and Eagles - they struggled in their playoff opener. The Jets nearly won despite not scoring a touchdown offensively in either game against Pittsburgh this season

The Steelers' message seems to be: This week, not last week, is the week they must play well.

"We have all the confidence in the world in Ben," cornerback Deshea Townsend said. "We were 15-1 during the season because of him. He's a very confident guy, very poised for a rookie and I'm sure he'll do fine."

### Marine at Iwakuni wins overall award in NFL Challenge

The recently completed NFL season proved to be profitable for a Marine Corps master sergeant assigned to Iwakuni Air Station in

James "Woody" Biggs, 37, of Folsom, Calif., correctly guessed the outcome of 167 out of 254 selected games in the 2004 NFL season, outdistancing 1,936 other entrants for the grand prize of \$1,000 in the NFL Challenge, a season-long contest sponsored by Stars and Stripes and Oconus.com.

"I was shocked, to be honest with you," said Biggs, assigned to Marine Aircraft Group-12.

The contest began at the start of the NFL season. Each week, entrants picked winners of each NFL game, while also putting a number of points on each game that indicated confidence in each selection.

Biggs won the first week of the contest, garnering a \$100 gift certificate courtesy of Store.com, and remained in the top five the rest of the way. But he confessed to worry about "two guvs with me who were really good competition.

In Week 16 of the 17-week season, he said, he "picked a couple of games that went sour." including San Diego over Indianapolis, a game the Colts won 34-31 in overtime. He fell to sixth place at that juncture.

"When Week 17 came up, I kept saying to myself, I gotta nail it,'" Biggs said. He picked 10 of the 16 games correctly "but I put the right amount of points on the right amount of games and man-aged to get lucky," he said. Biggs, who has played the NFL

Challenge all three years it has been contested, became the third straight overall winner stationed in Japan. He also became the first overall winner to snare one of the weekly prizes.

Though originally from California, Biggs proudly proclaims him-self a "lifelong Pittsburgh Steelers fan" and entered the NFL Challenge under the pseudonym 'SteelFrogWood.'

So what does Biggs plan to do with the \$1,000 prize?

"Pay bills," he said. "Christ-

### Sherman moving on with diminished role

The Associated Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. - Mike Sherman plans to make the best of his diminished role with the Green Bay Packers.

Sherman will stay on as coach after being stripped of his general manager duties over the week end. He said Monday that he'd like to remain in Green Bay bevond 2005, when his contract expires, but stressed that was up to new boss Ted Thompson.

Sherman said he never considered quitting after losing the GM

"I've never resigned from anything in my life. I'm not about to do it over this. I still have the best job in the National Football League," Sherman said. Sherman is due \$3.2 million in

2005, and team President Bob Harlan said that salary won't be slashed with his decreased du-

In his first public comments since the front-office shake-up, Sherman said Monday he proud of the job he did as GM but refused to criticize Harlan's deci-

sion to demote him. "I think as any competitor, you hate to let go of anything," Sherman said. "I would be lying to say that that was an easy thing for me. But after you digest every-thing and you understand the reasons for why things are done, it is what it is and you move forward."

Ravens hire Fassel, Neuheisel OWINGS MILLS, Md. - The

Baltimore Ravens completed a shake-up of their coaching staff Tuesday, hiring Jim Fassel as offensive coordinator, Rick Neu-heisel as quarterback coach and



Rex Ryan to defensive coordinator. Fassel, who

coached the New York Giants from 1997-03. worked as a senior consultant to the Rayens this season. He wanted another head coaching job, but he did not receive an offer and will now try to improve the league's 31st-ranked offense. He replaces Matt Cavanaugh, who re-

signed under pressure.

Neuheisel has been out of coaching since being fired by the University of Washington in June 2003 for participating in a high-stakes basketball pool. After impressing the Ravens while interviewing for the job as offensive coordinator, he was hired for the task of refining the skills of quar-terback Kyle Boller, a role Fassel filled last s

Ryan takes over for Mike Nolan, who left Monday to become head coach of the San Francisco 49ers. Ryan has been the Ravens' defensive line coach since 1999

#### Parcells ousts two assistants IRVING. Texas - Bill Parcells

took the first big step in his offseason overhaul of the Dallas Cowboys by announcing Monday he dumped two assistants: offensive line coach George Warhop and kicking coach Steve Hoffman.

Warhop's unit was among the team's biggest disappointments this season, and he said nearly two weeks ago that he'd been told he would be let go. He'll be replaced by tight ends coach Tony Sparano, who was Cleveland's of-fensive line coach in 2000.

# Atlanta's potent running game is a Dunn deal

### Veteran RB backs up stellar regular season with record-setting game against Rams

BY STEVE HENSON

ATLANTA — One of the NFL's unwritten commandments is to never trust anyone over 30 to carry the football.

Yet in his first game since reaching the age that qualifies running backs as senior citizens, Warrick Dunn established an Atlanta Falcons postseason record with 142 yards rushing Saturday in a 47-17 victory over the St. Louis Rams.

Afterward, beaming Falcons players made their way from the field to the locker room as fans shook their hands and slapped their backs. All the players had a spring in their gait after advancing to the NFC championship game, but only Dunn was in a full sprint.

"Look at him, after all those carries," a woman exclaimed. "He can't stop running." Why should he? Dunn still has lightning

why should ner Dunn sun has ingining in his stride and lightness to his step. For the first time in years, he doesn't feel like he's carrying the weight of the world on his shoulders.

He no longer is made to feel like a payroll burden and the owner's pet, not since coach Dan Reeves was fired with three games left in the 2003 season.

He no longer feels obligated to support his five younger siblings the way he did for years after his mother, a Baton Rouge, La., police officer, was shot and killed while working a second job as a security guard in 1993. His three brothers and two sisters all are in college or have

graduated.

And he certainly doesn't want to stop until a Super Bow is reached, not after missing out on the Tampa Bay Buccaneers' title run in 2002. He signed with the Fal-cons before that season for \$28.5 million over six years, having built a strong résumé in five seasons with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

So Dunn bounded into the locker room, changed quickly and paused only to put the victory in perspective. This was his ninth playoff game, and several were major disappointments, including an eight-carry, 1-yard performance in a loss to the Philadelphia Eagles in 2000. He had averaged 41 yards a game and less than 3.0 yards



Eight-year NFL veteran Warrick Dunn (28) rushed for a Falcons playoff-record 142 yards in Saturday's 47-17 rout of the St. Louis Rams. Dunn led Atlanta's top-ranked rushing offense (167 yards per game) with 1,106 rushing yards and nine touchdowns this season.

per carry in the postseason until the breakout against the Rams. "I had never been a huge factor in a play-

off game," he said. "I wanted to come out and make some plays to help our team win."

our team win."

Someone needled him about his age — he turned 30 on Jan. 5. "I feel young," he said. "My legs are fresh, and I'm just having fun."

AFN-A, AFN-P, AFN-Radio
Game time is Central European.

Tunn had more than 100 yards in the first quarter and scored on runs of 62 and 19 yards, showing that a defense

will pay for being overly concerned with explosive quarterback Michael Vick. "When you have a guy like that rolling

one way and we're going the other, the defense tends to go with him," Dunn said. "That created some running lanes that I was able to take advantage of early."

His teammates talked about his leader-

ship and maturity, terms that can carry the subtext of over-the-hill. Rather than take umbrage and point out that Curtis Martin, Marshall Faulk and Emmitt Smith are also 30-something tailbacks, Dunn took the compliments at face value.

"Guys were so anxious during practice this week they were fighting a little bit," he said. "I tried to help cut the tension. Even in pregame, guys had to calm down. I was getting tired before the game even started."

Soon the Rams were tired of chasing him into the end zone. It was the kind of performance Falcons owner Arthur Blank envisioned when he signed Dunn.

Reeves bit his tongue, but made his feelings clear when he used a first-round pick in 2002 to draft running back T.J. Duckett rather than fill the team's more pressing need at receiver.

Blank was said to be smitten by Dunn because of his community involvement, especially the Home for the Holidays charity program that has enabled single mothers from Baton Rouge to St. Petersburg and Tampa, Fla., to become first-time home-

\_\_\_\_

Blank, who co-founded Home Depot in 1978, soon partnered with Dunn, supplying furnishings in the homes provided to low-income mothers

Dunn makes the down payments.

"I put them in a position to succeed, to become stable, to try to better their lives, move forward and better their kids' lives," Dunn said. "It's not about me, it's about a mother and her family."

He began the program in 1997, his rookie season, after signing for \$8.8 million as a first-round pick out of Florida State. Helping single mothers had been his dream since his own mother, Cpl. Betty Dunn Smothers of the Baton Rouge Police Department, was shot and killed while scorting a supermarket manager to make a night bank deposit.

Dunn, the oldest of her children, was an 18-year-old high school senior. He thought his dream of playing college football had been dashed, but his grandmother had the help of the Baton Rouge police and other community services to ensure his brothers and sisters were cared for, and he went to Florida State.

In his first year in the NFL, his three youngest siblings moved to Tampa with him.

"Sometimes after practice some of the guys would go out, and I couldn't," Dunn said. "Td be like, 'I gotta go make dinner for everybody, make sure they do their homework.' They were leaning on me for emotional support, and every now and then I'd give financial benefits."

Now the youngest of his brothers and sisters is 20 and all are self-sufficient. Dunn's attention has turned to providing guidance on the field.

"I think last year (retired fullback) Bobby Christian was maybe 70 percent of our leadership and Warrick 30 percent," Falcons running backs coach Ollie Wilson said. "Now, he's probably 100 percent.

"Before, maybe he only spoke if he was asked questions. Now, he starts conversations and asks questions: 'What if we do this? How can we do that better?'

Dunn racked up his third 1,000-yard season in 2004, and he go better as the season progressed. His performance against the Rams was his fourth 100-yard game in the past five. Only 5 feet 8, 190 pounds, he started all 16 regular-season games for the first time and set career highs with nine rushing touchdowns and 265 carries.

"I think the misimpression people have about Warrick is that because of his size, he's an outside runner," coach Jim Mora said. "But he's not. He's so good between the tackles because he can find that crease and he can hit it quickly. That's one reason why he's so effective."

And another is that he doesn't ston run-

ning — until he reaches the locker room.

### Déjà vu: Patriots take momentum into Pittsburgh

DÉJÀ VU, FROM BACK PAGI

Yes, New England lost in Pittsburgh, 34-20 on Oct. 31, ending a league-record 21-game winning streak. But Dillon missed that game with a thigh injury and the Patriots rushed for just 5 yards on six attempts.

The spread also reflects the quarterback discrepancy.

Ben Roethlisberger is 14-0 as a starter, eight games better than the previous record for consecutive victories by a rookie QB. ers beat the Jets 20-17 in overtime Saturday despite Big Ben, not because of him. His two interceptions were disastrous — one was returned for a touchdown, the other led to a 43-yard missed field goal by Doug Brien that would have ended Pittsburgh's season if it was good.

Tom Brady, on the other hand, has won all seven postseason games he's started, although he got hurt during the Patriots' title game upset in Pittsburgh three years ago and Drew Bledsoe came in to throw a TD pass that helped win the game.

That's not to say Pittsburgh

That's not to say Pittsbu doesn't have a chance.

againest Martinots in the regular-season game, 221 on the ground. If they can run again (a better possibility if Seymour is out or hampered), they could control the clock the way the Patriots did against the Colts.

But New England's loss in that game came at a time when it was losing momentum, likely under the pressure of continuing their record streak (yes, even the Patriots occasionally feel pressure.) Now they're picking up momentum, as they seem to do at this time every year.

They're also conscious that next season might not be so easy because they are likely to have to break in new coordinators to replace Charlie Weis on offense and Romeo Crennel on defense.

Weis already has taken the head coaching job at Notre Dame and has been spending time working for both the Patriots and Fighting Irish. Crennel seems set for



the head coaching job in Cleveland, although he can't accept it or do any work for the Browns until the Patriots' season ends.

The way things look now, that's not likely to be until after the Super Bowl

# **SPORTS**



Roddick finishes strong in first match; U.S. Open champ Kuznetsova says she's innocent of doping, Page 29



Jeff Reed (3) bailed out the Steelers with a 33-yard field goal in overtime to beat the Jets on Saturday. Despite winning 15 consecutive games and entering the AFC title game with a 16-1 record and home-field advantage, Pittsburgh starts the week as a 3-point underdog to New England.

### New England has the look of a champion once again

By DAVE GOLDBERG

es, the New England Patriots go to Pittsburgh to face a team that beat them in the regular season and has a 16-1 record with 15 straight wins.

But no, the Patriots probably won't lose to the Steelers in next Sunday's AFC title game. Nor are

they likely to lose in the Super Bowl on Feb. 6, probably against Philadelphia.

In fact, after winning two of the past three NFL titles, going 14-2 for the second straight season and shutting down Peyton Manning as no one has done since they did it a year ago, it makes you wonder what happened in 2002, when the Patriots missed the playoffs after finishing 9.7. Dismiss that season and they are a unique team for any era, especially this one.

"What are they going to do now, change the rules again?" Patriots linebacker Tedy Bruschi asked facetiously after Sunday's 20-3 triumph over Manning and the Colts. "Make a rule that we can't play in the snow?"

Technically, the NFL didn't change the rules after the Patriots shut down Manning a year



New England quarterback Tom Brady (above) improved to 7-0 in playoff games but will face the league's top-rated defense at Pittsburgh on Sunday.

ago in the AFC title game. They only added a "point of emphasis" for the officials, cracking down on bumping and grabbing receivers after Indy complained they were continuously mugged in that game.

That change had little effect Sunday.

Even with free-agent rookie Randall Gay, safety Asante Samuel and wide receiver Troy Brown doing most of the work at cornerback in place of the injured Ty Law and Tyrone Poole, Maning's three star wide receivers could rarely get open. All-Pro defensive lineman Richard Seymour, out with a knee injury, was hardly missed.

"Any other team that loses Pro Bowlers loses a lot," Manning



Pats coach Bill Belichick will have a new offensive coordinator next season and most likely will have to hire a defensive coordinator.

said after the game. "But the Patriots never seem to."

It wasn't all defense, especially after intermission during what coach Bill Belichick called "the

best half we played this year."
Corey Dillon, whose acquisition by the Patriots may be as significant as Terrell Owens' was for Philadelphia, ran for 144 yards an New England had the ball for 38 minutes, limiting Manning's opportunities

Dillon is probably the reason the Patriots are favored by three points on the road against the Steelers, very rare for a visitor in a championship contest. That's effectively six points—the Steelers would normally get three for having the home field.

SEE DÉJÀ VU ON PAGE 35



Refreshed Dunn is leading Atlanta's playoff run into Philadelphia

Page 35



Roethlisberger seeks home improvement in AFC title game

Page 34



Spurs put emphatic end to Wizards' seven-game run

Page 32



St. Bonaventure hoops struggling after scandals Page 30